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REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE PROMOTION AND STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS AND RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

Collaboration and synergies among Rio conventions for the implementation of the UNCCD

Note by the secretariat

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD was requested by decision 17/COP.3, to report on the implementation of that decision to the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 4). He was also requested, *inter alia*:

(a) To further enhance the collaboration between the UNCCD secretariat and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), while fully integrating the Global Mechanism;

(b) To continue to take steps to implement the memoranda of understanding (MOU), signed with other secretariats and institutions, and to develop similar MOU with other institutional partners;

(c) To continue his consultations with the executive secretaries of other relevant conventions, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, on arrangements for liaison modalities at the Headquarters of the United Nations, with which they are institutionally linked, or with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and/or any other relevant location;

(d) To cooperate with UNEP and the executive secretaries of other relevant conventions, particularly the UNFCCC, the CBD and the Ramsar Convention to facilitate the exchange of scientific and technical information and experience in order to enhance the linkages among various scientific bodies and promote efficiency in the reporting requirements of Parties under relevant conventions;

(e) To give special attention at the next Conference of the Parties to the CBD, and the UNFCCC, which have respectively on their agendas a proposal for a work programme on dryland biodiversity and a discussion on issues related to land-use, land-use change and forestry.

2. Accordingly, further ways are not suggested herein to enhance cooperation at the programmatic level between conventions signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the Rio Conference) or as a result of it, or other conventions related to sustainable development and relevant to the global effort to combat desertification. Previous documents prepared under this agenda item for the first, second and third sessions of the Conference of the Parties fully covered the need and grounds for coordination in the different post-Rio implementation processes and described the rationale behind exploring further existing synergies between the UNCCD and other relevant conventions, in particular, the CBD, the UNFCCC and the Ramsar Convention. The scientific and technical linkages between these three conventions were reviewed extensively as were the benefits to be accrued from the implementation of the UNCCD through synergistic approaches with the other sustainable development conventions, by presenting the different scenarios, suggesting viable strategies and identifying different implications to the other conventions, while demonstrating the clear convergence of the objectives of the UNCCD with the other conventions.

II. COLLABORATION AND STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS AND RELEVANT INSTITUTIONS

A. Collaboration with other conventions

1. Convention on Biological Diversity

3. At its fourth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted decision IV/16, annex II, and decided that "Dryland, Mediterranean, Arid, Semi-arid, Grassland and Savannah Ecosystems"

would be one item for in-depth consideration at its fifth meeting. Accordingly, and in conformity with the programme of work of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, the fourth meeting of its Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technological and Technical Advice (SBSTTA) examined the first version of the document prepared by the secretariat of the CBD under the COP 5 agenda item "Programme of Work for Dryland, Mediterranean, Arid, Semi-arid, Grassland and Savannah Biological Diversity". As a follow-up to that document, SBSTTA adopted decision IV/3 requesting the CBD secretariat to prepare, in collaboration with the secretariat of the UNCCD, a draft programme of work on Biological Diversity of Dryland, Mediterranean, Arid, Semi-arid, Grassland and Savannah Ecosystems. The same decision also requested the Executive Secretary of the CBD to propose a shorter compound name for the title of this work programme to cover all types of ecosystem referred to therein.

4. During the inter-sessional period between SBSTTA IV and SBSTTA V, the UNCCD secretariat worked in close cooperation with the secretariat of the CBD in the preparation of this programme of work, particularly by providing input and conveying its views to the liaison group set up for that purpose. This consultation process led to the elaboration of a proposed programme of work (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/5/9).

5. The fifth meeting of SBSTTA addressed the issue under its agenda item 4.1.2, on the thematic area of "Biological Diversity of Dryland, Mediterranean, Arid, Semi-arid, Grassland and Savannah Ecosystems: Options for the Development of a Programme of Work". After reviewing the proposed programme of work, SBSTTA adopted a decision requesting the Conference of the Parties to the CBD to adopt a programme of work on this thematic area, to be developed jointly by the CBD and UNCCD secretariats.

6. During the fifth meeting of the SBSTTA, the UNCCD and the CBD secretariats jointly organized a workshop-brainstorming session with delegations, to deliberate further on this issue, particularly concerning their perception and views of this joint work programme. The level of attendance at that session was very encouraging, and participants were able to exchange views regarding their expectations of the programme and invited the UNCCD and CBD secretariats to share their ideas on the approach to be developed. Emphasis was put on field-level coordination of activities for effective implementation of the programme, and the NAP frameworks were considered as important entry points for the success of activities at the country level. The participants expressed a wish to see the development of synergies at the local level and the elimination of the duplication of effort among the various actors involved in implementation.

7. Consultations on the development of the joint work programme for presentation to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD started almost immediately after the completion of the fifth meeting of SBSTTA, and a text on "Possible Elements for a Joint Work Programme Between the CBD and UNCCD secretariats on Biological Diversity of Dry and Sub-humid Lands", was finalized by the UNCCD and CBD secretariats. Subsequently, the Conference of the Parties to the CBD at its fifth session, established by decision V/23, a programme of work on the Biological Diversity of Dryland, Mediterranean, Arid, Semi-arid, Grassland and Savannah Ecosystems, which may also be known as the programme on the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands".

8. The rationale for the development and implementation of a joint work programme addressing the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands is based on a number of factors, *inter alia*, that the biodiversity of these land areas constitutes important biological resources that are essential for the development of those areas, and whose conservation and sustainable use is imperative; the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands is threatened by, among other things, desertification and drought, which in essence prevents rehabilitation of biodiversity, whereas the loss of biodiversity in the dryland areas indirectly brings about desertification. The conservation and sustainable

use of the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands can lead to achieving the objectives of the environmental conventions, including the CBD and the UNCCD, while still providing tangible benefits to local populations.

9. Moreover, overall erosion and loss of biodiversity in dry and sub-humid areas impacts negatively on the socio-economic conditions of the affected populations, and an integrated approach is necessary is implementing this programme. Also, assessments are necessary to quantify the impact of land degradation and loss of productivity of the dry and sub-humid lands, and the associated loss of biodiversity. The people living in dry and sub-humid land areas depend on the biological diversity for their livelihood, and therefore any threat to these resources tends to undermine the basis of their existence, as they become more vulnerable to drought.

10. It is imperative not only that sustainable livelihood systems should be encouraged in these areas, but also that alternative ones should be developed, bearing in mind that for those countries that are affected by drought and desertification, the effective implementation of both the CBD and UNCCD presents a challenge and an opportunity, particularly in ensuring that available resources are used in an efficient manner, without duplication of effort.

11. Considering that anthropogenic factors that threaten biodiversity are associated with the way people make use of the natural resources to meet their needs, these assessments will take into account the livelihood systems of the inhabitants of the dry and sub-humid lands who depend on the biodiversity as a means of livelihood. This is also in view of the fact that coordination of implementation of the environmental conventions is essential at the local level, where it is possible to make a significant difference and where tangible benefits are not only easily achievable, but also demosstrable. Moreover, development plans for local areas do give added value to any synergistic initiative within the broad context of poverty alleviation.

12. Through the joint work programme, the secretariats of CBD and UNCCD will encourage and support the strengthening, enactment and coordination of policies and instruments that will promote the development of synergistic and complementary approaches in the implementation of the environmental conventions at the country level, through *inter alia* demonstrable cases of convergence of objectives. The CBD and UNCCD will also encourage and support the development of policies that promote participatory decision-making practices, as well as the best mix of scientific and traditional knowledge, in the sustainable and multiple use of biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands, as well as the diversification of means of production. This may include the preparation of methodological tools to facilitate the programming of synergistic initiatives at the local level.

13. Consultations are also going on with regard to the work undertaken by the UNCCD and the CBD secretariat to avoid duplication and to underline the similarity on the subject of traditional and local knowledge know-how and practices.

14. Finally, as agreed upon in the UNCCD-CBD Memorandum of Understanding, the UNCCD and CBD secretariats have continued their consultations regarding the organization of a joint workshop conceived for assisting countries in identifying viable and efficient means for addressing issues of awareness raising, public education, information requirements, training and implementation mechanisms jointly for the two conventions.

15. Both secretariats share the view that these workshops should be designed as national forums for debate and exchange of information on experience gained and progress achieved in the processes envisaged under the two conventions. As such, they could constitute the starting point of a national awareness of the importance of harmonizing and better coordinating the implementation strategies

for the UNFCCC and the CBD. The ultimate goal of such national consultative mechanisms would be the design of an integrated joint implementation strategy for both conventions, taking full advantage of the synergies offered by the UNCCD and the CBD in this regard.

16. Accordingly the UNCCD and CBD secretariats envisage involving major national stakeholders in the proceedings of these workshops. Priority would be given to the line ministries directly in charge of the implementation of each convention and their respective focal points, but an invitation would also be extended to other relevant public authorities with mandates in strategic fields associated with the implementation process of both conventions, such as training, information and scientific research. In this regard, the active participation of the NGO and media community is seen as indispensable. The UNCCD and CBD secretariats are now studying the modalities of a joint fund-raising campaign for this activity.

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

17. In order to strengthen cooperation with the UNFCCC, as a follow up to the various recommendations made in this regard by the COP and building as well on the programme of work of the UNFCCC as defined by decision 9/COP.4, the secretariats of the UNCCD and UNFCCC have engaged in a round of periodic consultations with a view to better defining areas with potential for immediate collaboration. Given the different nature of both processes as well as the different levels of their implementation, such collaboration has focused at this stage on the exchange of information and joint participation in technical and scientific meetings. In this regard, the UNCCD secretariat participated in the workshop on Impacts of Climate Change, held in Bonn in 1998. On that occasion the UNCCD secretariat made a presentation on impacts of climate change on countries in arid, semi-arid and forested areas and areas liable to forest decay, and countries liable to drought and desertification.

18. The UNCCD secretariat participated in the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), held respectively in June and September 2000. Of particular relevance to the UNCCD were SBSTA agenda items on land use, and land-use change and forestry, as well as items of discussion on the Kyoto Protocol which dealt with the clean development mechanism with respect to land degradation issues. The issue of capacity development, on the agenda of the SBI, was of interest to the UNCCD secretariat. The UNCCD secretariat also attended a workshop on land use, land-use change and forestry in July 2000, which was organized by the UNFCCC in response to a request by SBSTA, to analyse the special report on land use, land-use change and forestry of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In the context of the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol, collaborative ventures between the UNCCD and the UNFCCC will be pursued within the broad context of these issues, taking into account the guidance from the Conference of the Parties.

19. Taking advantage of their co-location and bearing in mind cost efficiency, the UNCCD and UNFCCC secretariats have also been engaged in periodic consultations on the possibility of common administrative services. Accordingly, and following a proposal made by the United Nations Office at Geneva, these secretariats have agreed to work towards a shared facility to provide common administrative services.

20. There are many reasons for this initiative, in particular that both secretariats share a similar background and institutional arrangements, had good experiences with joint services when they were located in Geneva, have similar administrative needs, share the same physical space, and are committed to exploring ways of doing more with fewer financial resources. It is expected that a common facility will serve more efficiently the needs of both secretariats, avoiding duplication of capacities, while encouraging the merging of both secretariats.

21. Having agreed on the principle of such a joint facility, the Executive Secretary of each organization has appointed senior staff to work out the modalities and the sequencing of such an operation. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD will report back to the COP on the development of this initiative.

3. Convention on Wetlands

22. The secretariat has been exploring possibilities of further cooperation with the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar), pursuant to the terms of the Memorandum of Cooperation already signed by both secretariats. A consultative meeting was held between the two secretariats in August 2000, with a view to identifying appropriate opportunities to reinforce closer collaboration. During this meeting, the two secretariats agreed to establish more linkages through their Web sites, which would be useful to their focal points at the country level, and focal points would also be informed as appropriate. It was agreed that consultative forums would be sought at the country level, to ensure, as far as possible, collaboration in the implementation of the two conventions. It was evident from the meeting that a number of wetlands in arid and semi-arid lands have not been designated as such, and preparation of a list or inventory has been deemed necessary. This exercise could be started immediately with an initial focus on Africa. Parties are encouraged to increase the number of designated wetlands, for ease of rational management and use.

23. Capacity strengthening is seen as crucial for the implementation of the conventions, and Parties are encouraged to promote awareness of the importance of wetlands for the UNCCD. Ways and means should be explored for developing suitable materials for outreach to various key constituencies.

24. Both secretariats consider it necessary to encourage joint activities in promoting science and technology, and have agreed that the rosters of experts for the two Conventions should be linked through the Web sites. Sharing of experiences through early warning systems is another key component through which the information already developed by the CST can be tapped for use by the Parties. The experience gained by UNCCD Parties through the CST work on benchmarks and indicators, as well as traditional knowledge, should be shared with the Parties to the Ramsar Convention. With respect to the coordination of programmes of work for the two conventions, Parties and focal points are encouraged to hold consultations, particularly when preparing national reports, and to provide copies of strategies/action programmes or plans on work regarding the two conventions. The two secretariats have agreed to seek ways of closer collaboration in their work in the areas affected by drought and desertification.

B. Collaboration with other relevant institutions

1. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

25. In conformity with decision 23/COP.1 of the Conference of the Parties at its first session, the UNCCD secretariat made the necessary contractual arrangements with UNEP, in order to carry out a survey and evaluation of the relevant existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies willing to become units of the network for support to implement the Convention. Accordingly, the UNCCD secretariat mobilized resources for the implementation of phase I of the survey, the report of which was presented to the Conference of the Parties at its third session.

26. Pursuant to the requirements of decision 13/COP.3, the final report of phase I of the survey as updated by UNEP, together with the Terms of Reference of phase II of the survey, have been sent to the Bureau of the CST and the focal point of the Southern African region, which is the SADC Environment and Lands Management Sector Coordination Unit, for their consideration and comments as appropriate.

27. Other collaborative initiatives with GEF include the Dryland Land Degradation Assessment Project (LADA), which aims to provide basic standardized information and methodological tools for land degradation assessment at national, regional and global levels. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) are also key collaborators in this project. Moreover, the Millennium Ecosystems Assessment, which is already in preparation, is a process designed to improve the management of the world's natural and managed ecosystems, by helping to provide policy-relevant scientific information on the condition of ecosystems, and options for appropriate response. A detailed profile of these two initiatives is contained in an information document (ICCD/COP(4)/INF.6), which has been provided by the secretariat.

28. The UNCCD secretariat has also been following closely the proposed Integrated Land and Water Management (ILWM) initiative. It is worthwhile to recall that ILWM was presented during one of the parallel events organized in Recife, during COP 3. The broad objective is to develop an integrated approach to the management of land, water and natural resources for productive sustainable growth. It aims to benefit from the special institutional strengths and comparative advantages of collaborating institutions and agencies working together. The ILWM will also seek to find new ways of linking actions by various implementing agencies through units such as watersheds and/or political unit approaches. The UNCCD secretariat has called for the ILWM to focus on the key problems of areas affected by drought and desertification.

1. The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

29. By its decision 14/COP.1, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the excellent cooperation existing between the UNCCD secretariat and the secretariat of the GEF, as well as the reciprocal representation in meetings of the Convention and those of the GEF. At its second session, the COP invited the GEF to actively support the activities of the Global Mechanism, which plays an important role in facilitating the mobilization of resources to support the implementation of the UNCCD (decision 18/COP.2). Furthermore, the First GEF Assembly, held in New Delhi, India in April 1998, adopted the New Delhi Statement, which in paragraph 8 called on the GEF, in consultation with the secretariat of the UNCCD, to seek to better define the linkages between land degradation, particularly desertification and deforestation, and its focal areas and to increase GEF support for land degradation activities as they relate to the GEF focal areas.

30. In response to policy guidance given by the COP and the GEF Assembly and Council, both the UNCCD secretariat and the GEF secretariat have initiated consultations to promote collaborative activities. This document supplements the report submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its second session and presents an updated overview of relations between the UNCCD and the GEF.

31. In this context, the agenda of the GEF Council Meeting that was held in Washington D.C. in December 1999 embodied two items of direct relevance to the UNCCD: that is agenda item 7 on Clarifying Linkages between Land Degradation and the GEF Focal Areas and agenda item 13 on Relations with Conventions.

32. Under agenda Item 7 the GEF secretariat introduced a document entitled "Clarifying Linkages between Land Degradation and the GEF Focal Areas: An Action Plan for Enhancing GEF Support". This document had been prepared by the GEF secretariat with inputs from UNCCD, and it had also been presented by the GEF secretariat at a workshop during the COP 3 in Recife. The document contains an action plan and timetable for implementation, aimed at increasing GEF support for land degradation issues. This document received overwhelming support from the Council members. Accordingly, the Council requested the implementing agencies of the GEF to give high priority to the implementation of this action

plan and called upon them to work cooperatively with the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD.

35. In the same context the Council requested the implementing agencies to enhance their efforts to develop and implement the Integrated Land and Water Initiative, with special emphasis on countries with low vegetative cover, vulnerable to land degradation, and in particular countries in Africa. The Council suggested that aspects of development and poverty alleviation be more clearly articulated in the action plan, which would serve to better recognize co-funding and complementary GEF activities with the regular activities of the implementing agencies. It was also suggested that stronger consideration be given in the action plan and in its implementation to the underlying causes of land degradation.

36. In the light of this development the Council requested the GEF secretariat and the implementing agencies to help countries prepare project proposals in the GEF focal areas that include land degradation measures consistent with the action plan. The Council also requested the GEF secretariat, in cooperation with the implementing agencies, to report regularly on the implementation of the action plan at each Council meeting. The Chief Executive Officer of the GEF promised to table the Action Plan to the next meeting of heads of implementing agencies, with a view to obtaining an early start to the process of the implementation of the Action Plan. It is expected that implementation of the Action Plan will further strengthen UNCCD and GEF collaboration making use of the already established UNCCD national action programme frameworks.

37. Regarding agenda item 10 on Relations with Thematic Fund, the GEF Council encouraged the GEF secretariat and the implementing agencies to continue close collaboration with Parties to the Convention and Convention secretariats. In the same decision, the Council encouraged recipient countries, the implementing agencies and the GEF secretariat to continue their efforts to develop country-driven projects consistent with the priorities and programme strategies identified in the guidance from the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

38. Further potential for collaboration between the GEF and the UNCCD secretariats will be explored through the Capacity Development Initiative (CDI), which is a strategic partnership between the GEF secretariat and UNDP, and the UNCCD secretariat has been invited to be on the Steering Committee. The objective of the CDI is to prepare a strategic action plan to address country level capacity needs, specifically in the climate change and biodiversity focal areas, and land degradation in the context of these areas. The guiding principle of the CDI is to develop the plan through a fully consultative process with the partner countries, mobilizing local and regional expertise, responsive to country needs and priorities.

39. Another area concerns the proposed country Dialogue Workshops, to be run by the GEF and the UNDP. These workshops are expected, among others, to train country-level operatives on how to prepare projects in the format acceptable to the GEF. Indeed, it has been observed that, in spite of the numerous studies and communications that have clearly elucidated the interlinkages that exist between land degradation and the focal areas of the GEF, UNCCD stakeholders still have difficulty in obtaining GEF resources to finance activities initiated in the UNCCD process. This arises from, inter alia, the problems of clearly defining the terms "interlinkages", "incremental cost" and "global benefits", with respect to desertification and land degradation control activities, as reflected by GEF criteria for project formulation and funding.

40. Interventions at the local level in areas affected by land degradation should be rapid and should take approaches that are more innovative than the

taken usually taken by the GEF and the implementing agencies in order to address the underlying causes of land degradation.

58. The proposed Action Plan should include an enabling environment that should be supported and enhanced, but the enabling environment needs not translate into a new conditionality by the GEF, for channelling resources to land degradation activities. Indeed this enabling environment for the action plan should constitute an important entry point to support the poverty alleviation portfolio of the GEF.

C. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

59. Building on a long tradition of cooperation, the UNCCD secretariat and the WMO have developed numerous joint activities. In this context, the last Congress of the WMO gave a high priority to the UNCCD process and pledged additional financial and technical assistance to support UNCCD related activities that fall into its field of competence, such as early warnings, hydrology, climate variation and drought. A list of main activities in this domain prepared and that have been produced jointly by the UNCCD secretariat and the WMO.

60. Furthermore, the WMO participates in the funding of the first and second phases of the transboundary pilot projects for Asia, under development. The UNCCD secretariat and the WMO are also jointly organizing an international symposium on the El Niño phenomenon to be held in Paris later this year. The WMO has also announced its support to the UNCCD thematic programme networks, particularly the network on the integrated management of international rivers, lakes and hydrometeorological issues in Africa, as well as other issues in Latin America and Caribbean region. The WMO is also assisting the UNCCD secretariat regarding the living standards in drylands for their project in the Sahelian region on poverty preservation and desertification, in connection with the Rio+5 Summit.

D. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

61. The UNCCD recognizes the importance of sensitization, education and public awareness in efforts to combat desertification. In this context, environmental education programmes on the causes and effects of desertification and on techniques to maintain land degradation are one of the main instruments to combat desertification. Therefore, the UNCCD secretariat proposes to cooperate with the UNESCO in order to define a joint programme of cooperation services or activities that would maximize the cooperative potential of UNESCO in the implementation of the Convention. Accordingly the UNCCD secretariat and UNESCO agreed to develop, at the primary school level, educational "desertification kits" in three languages (English, French, Spanish), which will be tested in various drought and desertification affected countries. The first phase of this project will be conducted in the African region with a view to expanding it in the future to other regions covered by the Convention.

62. The educational kits will comprise a youth guide, several fact sheets and two comics booklets highlighting the problems of desertification. UNESCO and the UNCCD secretariat will collaborate in the implementation of the project.

III. INSTITUTIONAL AND LOGISTICAL ASPECTS

A. Status of the signing of memoranda of understanding

63. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD was requested by the COP, decision 17/COP.1, to continue taking steps to implement the Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) signed with other secretariats and institutions, and to develop similar MOUs with other institutional partners. As reported previously, the UNCCD secretariat has engaged in numerous consultations with a variety of institutional partners with the view to agreeing upon and signing memoranda of

understanding and memoranda of cooperation (MOCs). These documents are conceived as being frameworks that describe in general terms the intended scope of cooperation, building on the diverse fields of expertise and comparative advantages of the different institutional partners available for the implementation of the Convention.

41. In this context, the secretariat has already signed such MOCs with the secretariats of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar) and the CBD. The secretariat has also signed an MOC with FAO, and a Memorandum of Cooperation with UNEP is pending. During the third session of the Conference of the Parties, the UNCCD secretariat has also arranged consultations with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change with a view to developing a Memorandum of Understanding that will identify priority areas of cooperation. These consultations have also included considerations pertaining to the scope and nature of the MOU so as to determine its final structure. Areas of cooperation envisaged would include, among others, joint activities at the national level; data and information management; training issues and national communications. In the light of the latest developments in the field of common administrative services, this MOU will also include a provision relating to this future facility.

42. The UNCCD secretariat has also entered and signed, with the UNDP, a cooperation framework for the implementation of the Convention. In this regard, the UNCCD secretariat is engaged in consultations with UNEP, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the GEF secretariat for the finalization of additional MOUs. Copies of these Memoranda of Understanding and Memoranda of Cooperation are available at the UNCCD secretariat and can be provided upon request.

B. Considerations regarding liaison mechanisms

43. By decision 17/COP.3, the Executive Secretary has requested the secretariat, in consultation with the executive secretaries of other relevant conventions, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention, to explore suitable liaison modalities at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York, Geneva and other relevant locations.

44. Developing an analysis of possible future requirements, options in liaison modalities, and providing up-to-date recommendations for the Conference of the Parties, in 1999 the secretariat of the UNCCD began consultations with institutional partners with a view to exploring viable options for joint liaison facilities, particularly in Geneva and New York.

45. In its decision 17/COP.3 the Conference of the Parties welcomed and requested efforts of convention secretariats, in response to requests from the respective conferences of the parties, to explore, where appropriate, modalities for suitable liaison arrangements in Geneva and/or New York for the purpose of enhancing linkages with delegations and organizations at those duty stations".

46. Further information on possible liaison arrangements (United Nations centres) is given in ICCD/COP(3)/15/Add.1. With regard to these arrangements, the secretariat informed the Conference of the Parties that consultations with relevant secretariats were being held to explore the possibility of developing liaison capacities in New York, Geneva and Rome. Such liaison capacity would enable Parties that so prefer to continue to cover the Convention from their New York or Geneva missions and would also facilitate interaction between the secretariat and programmes and activities related to combating desertification based in New York, Geneva or Rome.

51. It would also provide liaison with the United Nations Office at Geneva, from which the Convention will continue to receive services in 2000, in particular for administrative matters as well as for the translation, reproduction and distribution of COP documents, and other conference services. In this regard, the Executive Secretary informed the Conference of the Parties of arrangements being made for the maintenance of such liaison through cooperative arrangements with other United Nations offices and partner organizations.

52. Within this policy framework, the UNCCD secretariat continued its consultations with institutional partners, particularly secretariats of similar conventions, with a view to agreeing on suitable modalities for joint liaison facilities. Accordingly, the UNCCD secretariat and the CBD secretariat developed and signed a Memorandum of Understanding in which they agreed on the interest of sharing a common liaison facility in New York for the purpose of enhancing linkages with both processes as well as to maintain closer links with Delegations at Headquarters. Logistical and financial aspects are defined in an annex to the Memorandum of Understanding. The executive secretaries of the UNCCD and CBD secretariats are continuing their consultations in this regard with the objective of extending the scope of the proposed liaison facility to other interested partners and securing the financial resources required for its operation. The UNFCCC secretariat has also expressed interest in office space in New York and is ready to explore with the UNCCD secretariat the practical modalities that may be available in this regard.

53. The UNCCD secretariat has also engaged in consultations with the United Nations Secretariat, through its Department for Economic and Social Development (UNDESA), and UNDP regarding the issue of liaison arrangements in New York. These consultations have been very fruitful. UNDESA has confirmed its willingness to put at the disposal of the secretariat two permanent offices in addition to an office on a part-time basis to be shared by the executive secretaries of the UNCCD, UNFCCC and CBD when on mission to New York. These facilities would greatly strengthen the secretariat's capacity to interact with missions based in New York, particularly developing and least developed country missions, as well as with the United Nations Headquarters, with which the UNCCD is administratively linked, while also promoting cost efficiency in the operations of the secretariat.

54. It is also expected that the existence of this facility will allow for substantial savings due to the fact that the travel of secretariat staff will be reduced to a minimum and the costs of communications will be less. No additional costs are foreseen at this stage regarding staff as the secretariat is further exploring options available under the agreement with the Secretary-General on the use of overhead resources.

55. Following the relocation of embassies from Bonn to Berlin, the secretariats of the conventions based in Bonn feel a strong need to reach Parties through their permanent missions at United Nations Headquarters. Many actors involved in the UNCCD process are based in New York, which remains the main forum for high level and technical debate on matters of direct importance to the UNCCD. For example, the main chapter of the G77 (more than 75 per cent of the Parties) is based in New York; the annual sessions of the General Assembly, which considers issues of relevance to the UNCCD and other Rio conventions are held there; three out of five United Nations programmes are based in New York and have work related to the UNCCD, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and the Administrative Committee on Coordination holds most of its meetings at United Nations Headquarters.

56. In view of the above, the Conference of the Parties may wish, as an interim measure, to authorize the Executive Secretary to set up a liaison facility at United Nations Headquarters. This facility should be run by no more than one Professional staff member. The Executive Secretary should report to the

fifth session of the Conference of the Parties on experience and benefits gained. From that experience, liaison facilities may be extended to other places as required/or appropriate with the understanding that no additional financial resources will be incurred for this purpose. It is assumed that the staff member in New York will be paid from the portion of the overhead that the United Nations secretariat returns to the Convention secretariat in accordance with the institutional arrangements between them.

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Bonn, 11-22 December 2000
Item 12 (a) of the provisional agenda[1]

OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(a) CONSIDERATION OF RULE 47 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Note by the secretariat

1. At its second session, the Conference of the Parties (COP), by decision 21/COP.2,[2] decided to replace the marginal note, the title and paragraph 1 of rule 47 of the rules of procedure by the text reproduced in the annex, and requested the secretariat to include consideration of this outstanding rule of procedure on the agenda of its third session.

2. The secretariat transmitted, annexed to ICCD/COP(3)/13, the text of rule 47 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties, as amended by decision 21/COP.2.

3. By decision 19/COP.3,[3] the Conference of the Parties requested the President of the Conference of the Parties at its third session to continue consultations on the outstanding issue related to rule 47 of the rules of procedure and to report on the result of his consultations to the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session.

4. By the same decision, the Conference of the Parties also requested the secretariat to include consideration of this outstanding rule of procedure on the agenda of its fourth session.

5. The secretariat has received only one submission, dated 8 June 2000, from the Government of Portugal on behalf of the European Community and its member States.

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[1] ICCP/COP(4)/1.

[2] For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its second session, see ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1.

[3] For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its third session, see ICCD/COP(3)/20/Add.1.

6. That submission states that: "(a) The European Community also notes the outstanding issue of voting under Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure. We do not believe that a disproportionate amount of the time available at COP 4 should be spent on this issue. We consider that, if there is discussion of the issue at COP 4 and if resolution cannot be achieved quickly, the matter should be postponed for consideration at COP 5; (b) The European Union would be prepared to resolve the issue on the basis that, if all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted, decisions on matters of substance should be taken by a two-thirds majority vote, except for decisions under Article 21, Article 22.2(g) and, save where otherwise provided by the Convention, the financial rules and the Rules of Procedure themselves, when the decisions should be taken by consensus."

7. The annex to the present document contains the text of rule 47 of the rules of procedure as amended by decision 21/COP.2.

Annex

TEXT OF RULE 47 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, AS AMENDED BY DECISION 21/COP.2

"*Majority required*

Rule 47

"1. [The Parties shall make every effort to reach agreement on all matters of substance by consensus. If all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the decision shall, as a last resort, be taken by [a simple majority vote] [a two-thirds majority vote] of the Parties present and voting, [except for decisions taken under article 21 [and article 22, paragraph 2(g)] of the Convention which shall be agreed upon by consensus, or] [unless otherwise provided by

"(a) the Convention;

"(b) the financial rules referred to in article 22, paragraph 2(e) of the Convention; or

"(c) the present rules of procedure.]]"

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Convention to Combat
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OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(b) CONSIDERATION OF PROCEDURES AND INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF QUESTIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 27 OF THE CONVENTION, WITH A VIEW TO DECIDING HOW TO TAKE THIS MATTER FORWARD

(c) CONSIDERATION OF ANNEXES CONTAINING ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION PROCEDURES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 28, PARAGRAPHS 2(a) AND 6, OF THE CONVENTION

Note by the secretariat

1. By decision 20/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties decided, in accordance with articles 27 and 28 of the Convention, to convene during its fourth session an open-ended ad hoc group of experts to examine and make recommendations, taking into account the documents prepared by the secretariat and in light of progress of the negotiations on the same matters in other relevant environmental conventions, on the following issues: (a) procedures for resolution of questions of implementation; (b) annex on arbitration procedures; (c) annex on conciliation procedures.

2. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to communicate their views to the Secretariat by 31 May 2000 in writing on how to take this matter forward. The Conference of the Parties also requested the secretariat to compile these views for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session and update the information contained in the above-mentioned procedures and annexes, as necessary, to reflect the progress achieved in this area in other relevant conventions, and prepare new documents for consideration at its fourth session.

3. The present document is composed of two parts: Part one contains consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions. It consists of an introduction, background information, written proposals by Parties, data on relevant precedents, new developments and, finally, a section on relevant considerations which may be taken into account for present or future discussions.

[1] ICCD/COP(4)/1.

4. Part two on the annexes on arbitration and conciliation is divided into an introduction, background information, submissions by Parties on these outstanding issues, status of annexes and procedure for adoption, timing of adoption of documents and, at the end, the revised annexes according to new developments in international environmental law and/or written proposal by Parties.

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I. CONSIDERATION OF PROCEDURES AND INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF QUESTIONS OF IMPLEMENTATION

A. INTRODUCTION

5. At its eighth session, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification (INCD) considered the question of procedures to resolve questions on implementation on the basis of document A/AC.241/30. This latter document was prepared by the secretariat in response to a request from the INCD by virtue of paragraph 5 of its resolution 6/1 entitled "Organization and programme of work for the interim period" (A/50/74, appendix II).

6. At the same session, the INCD by its decision 8/10 postponed further consideration of the item on "resolution of questions" to the first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (A/51/76). Subsequently, by its decision 9/COP.1, subparagraph 3(m), the COP decided to include on the agenda for its second and, if necessary, its third session the item on procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to implementation (ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1).

7. The present note updates document ICCD/COP(3)/16. More particularly, it provides current information with regard to the relevant precedents cited in that document as well as information on new developments. The preliminary list of possible queries outlined in section III of the above-mentioned document is maintained. The background information together with the list of preliminary questions are intended to assist the COP in its deliberations to formulate procedures and mechanisms required for the purposes of article 27 of the UNCCD without attempting to design a "resolution of questions" regime.

B. BACKGROUND

8. Article 27 of the Convention provides that: "The Conference of the Parties shall consider and adopt procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to the implementation of the Convention."

9. Provisions of that type are generally considered to be a relatively new feature of environmental conventions. They are an attempt to pre-empt and avoid confrontation that might trigger more formal dispute resolution procedures. They are thought to be particularly well suited to global environmental regimes, where many Parties share an interest in the effective implementation of the Convention's objectives.

10. The pre-emptive and consensual approach is becoming the practice in certain new environmental treaties, especially when non-implementation stems from lack of capacity or inadvertence. Because procedures for resolution of questions remain within the jurisdiction of a convention's governing body, they are generally considered as a means of enabling Parties to a convention to discuss its implementation in a constructive and cooperative manner to secure amicable solutions.

C. SUBMISSIONS BY PARTIES[2]

1) CANADA

PROCEDURES FOR THE RESOLUTION OF QUESTIONS OF IMPLEMENTATION:

This submission is presented pursuant to III/20 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification (the "COP"), which requests Parties to provide written comments on the questions of:

- Procedures for the resolution of questions of implementation (Article 27 of the Convention);

- Two draft annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures (Article 28 of the Convention).

I) PROCEDURES FOR THE RESOLUTION OF QUESTIONS OF IMPLEMENTATION

The matter of Procedures for the Resolution of Questions of Implementation is closely related to the question of Procedures for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, addressed in COP Decision III/6. As requested in Decision III/6, Canada has already submitted written comments regarding the review of the implementation of the Convention. In this earlier submission, Canada is calling for an Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) to address Implementation Review that is limited in size; open and flexible; capable of considering implementation both from a geographical and a thematic perspective; and one which considers both specific questions of implementation at the level of a Party, and general implementation questions at the level of the Convention as a whole. Looking at past experience, including from the discussion held on implementation during COP III, the Canadian submission further stressed the importance of information of high quality, and the allocation of sufficient time for a thorough discussion.

With regard to questions on implementation, it is difficult to foresee with certainty what type of questions might arise. These should become clearer as the process of implementation review is carried out by the AHWG. Procedures for their resolution should remain flexible to respond to them.

Therefore, in light of the findings and avenues explored in the earlier Canadian submission (procedures to review implementation), we submit that, at this time, there is no need for separate procedures to be elaborated under COP Decisions III/6 and III/20. A single procedure, which involves a limited group of Parties working in the margins of the COP - the AHWG - should be sufficient and capable of addressing the various questions of implementation envisaged in Articles 22, 24, 26 and 27 of the Convention.

Canada envisages that such a procedure would function along the following general lines:

a) during the first week of each COP meetings, a small group of experts - the AHWG - would meet on the margins of the COP to review the implementation by Parties of their obligations, on the basis of the information communicated in accordance with the Convention. The review process would also present the venue for a Party to raise specific questions to the group regarding its implementation of the Convention, as well as the implementation by other Parties;

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[2] Reproduced without formal editing by the UNCCD secretariat.

b) the AHWG would prepare a report to the plenary of the COP, in which it would summarize its deliberations including the work accomplished and lessons learned, etc. The report could also outline questions related to general issues and trends linked to the implementation of the Convention, as well as specific questions raised by Parties;

c) the COP would allow ample time, in the course of its second week, to consider and exchange views on the report of the AHWG. This, with a view to ensure a thorough exchange of information and sharing of experience among all Parties;

d) the COP would decide on appropriate follow-up actions to reports of the AHWG, with a view to facilitate and promote the implementation of the Convention. It could, among other things, task the working group with the further consideration and development of recommendations on the general questions of implementation put to the COP's attention.

Specific questions related to the single process

If the above general approach is agreeable, we would address in the following manner a number of the more specific questions raised by the elaboration of such a procedure:

- principles: the underlying principles to the work of the working group would be those of non-confrontationality, flexibility, simplicity, transparency, prevention and cost- effectiveness, with a view to assist Parties in implementing the Convention. The review would proceed with either a geographic or a thematic approach;

- an ad hoc or a permanent body: The earlier Canadian submission on implementation review provided some pros and cons for each of these two principles. Related to this question are the costs involved, whether there is a need for intersessional work to be accomplished, and the additional burden caused by the preparation of the work of the group. Our view is that the formula of an ad hoc group should be maintained for the time being, on a trial basis, and that the question be revisited at COP VI, on the basis of the experience gained by then;

- composition of the group: we believe that the AHWG should be composed of a limited group of experts, representative of the various interests involved. The exact composition of the Group will require further consideration, on the basis of its mandate and functions. Parties having submitted - or being the object of - a specific question of implementation should be invited to attend the group's session where the matter is discussed. In addition to regular members, the AHWG should be enabled to invite external experts to attend and participate in its sessions, as deemed useful;

- triggers: as such, there would be no need for triggers to the procedures, as reports would be systematically reviewed by the AHWG during the first week of each COP meetings. The COP would also be empowered to request the AHWG to further consider general questions of implementation put to it's attention. In addition, Parties could "trigger" the consideration of specific questions on implementation by the AHWG, related to their own implementation or the implementation by other Parties of the Convention's obligations, by raising questions in this venue;

- basis for the review of the specific implementation by Parties: the quality of the work accomplished by the AHWG will greatly depend upon the quality of the information at its disposal. As indicated in COP Decision III/4 and in the procedures adopted under COP Decision I/11 (the "Procedure"), the work of the group would be based on the information transmitted by Parties in accordance with the Convention, together with advice and information provided by the CST and the GM, and such other reports as the COP may have called for. Specific

questions related to implementation review could be provided in advance or raised at the time in conjunction with the presentation of national reporting;

- role of the Convention's Secretariat: the Secretariat would prepare the work - and service the sessions - of the AHWG: in accordance with the Procedure, the Secretariat is already tasked with compiling the summaries of reports submitted by Parties and preparing a synthesis of these reports, setting out emerging trends. The Secretariat could take on the additional task of documenting any question related to implementation which would be submitted in advance of the COP;

- linkages with settlement of disputes mechanism: An effective mechanism for the review of implementation should reduce the risks of disputes among Parties. The implementation review mechanism should be kept separate from, and without prejudice to, the provisions of Article 28 of the Convention, on Settlement of Disputes.

The particular circumstances of COP IV:

According to COP Decision III/6, an AHWG is to proceed, immediately at COP IV, with the review and analysis of the reports available for all regions, and to draw conclusions and propose concrete recommendations on further steps in the implementation of the Convention. This is a heavy workload. It is therefore proposed that the details of procedure for raising questions on implementation could be tasked to the Panel of Legal Experts which will meet at COP4 to determine rules of Procedure.

2) PORTUGAL ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

DRAFT EU SUBMISSIONS ON LEGAL QUESTIONS

The European Union welcomes the convening at the fourth session of the COP of an open-ended ad hoc group of experts to examine and make recommendations on:

(a) Procedures for resolution of questions of implementation;

(b) Annex on arbitration procedures;

(c) Annex on conciliation procedures;

The European Union is pleased to make this submission on these issues in response to Decision 20/COP.3, paragraph 2.

We have also taken this opportunity to set out our views on the outstanding questions on the Rules of Procedure, in preparation for any further discussion at COP4, in accordance with Decision 21/COP.3.

Resolution of Questions of Implementation

The European Union welcomes the opportunity provided by the convening of the open-ended ad hoc group of experts under decision 20/COP3 to start work on the implementation requirements laid down in Article 27.

The European Union recognises the strong commitment amongst all Parties to the Convention to the observance of obligations being made subject to effective compliance procedures.

We also recognize that each Convention is distinctive. It is therefore important to ensure that whatever models for compliance procedures are

considered, the procedure eventually adopted is carefully tailored to meet the particular circumstances and requirements of the UNFCCC.

We are, at this time, of an open mind as to precisely what provisions a successful compliance procedure for the Convention should contain. But our initial thinking is that, having regard to the nature of the Convention's provisions, a process like a multilateral consultative process recently negotiated under Article 13 of the Climate Change Convention would be more appropriate than a compliance regime such as that which operates for the Montreal Protocol. In other words, we believe that the procedure should be advisory rather than supervisory in character. In general terms, we would also wish the procedure to be simple, facilitative, co-operative, non-confrontational, transparent and non-judicial in character.

The experience from other multilateral environmental agreements regarding this matter suggests that compliance procedure requires significant time and therefore it may be possible only to commence work on this important issue at the fourth session of the COP, in the expectation that agreement will be reached at a subsequent session of the COP.

D. RELEVANT PRECEDENTS

11. The most relevant precedents relating to article 27 of the UNFCCC include the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Montreal Protocol), the 1994 Protocol on Further Reductions of Sulphur Emissions (the Second Sulphur Protocol) to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP), as well as article 13 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

12. While the few existing precedents provide some legal bases for giving effect to article 27 of the UNFCCC, they must be examined with caution. The balance of obligations varies from one treaty to another. Hence, the procedures and institutional mechanisms need to be tailored to suit individual treaties. The following review of relevant precedents should therefore be examined with this in mind.

1. Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (The Montreal Protocol)

13. The full non-compliance procedure of the Montreal Protocol was created by decision IV/5 at the fourth meeting of the Parties to that Protocol (UNEP/OzL.Pro.4/15). The Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Non-Compliance established in September 1997 by decision IX/35 of the Parties to the Protocol had the task of reviewing this procedure (UNEP/OzL.Pro.9/12). The Ad Hoc Working Group presented its final report to the tenth Meeting of the Parties (UNEP/OzL.Pro.10/9). Of the options envisaged, the Meeting of the Parties decided to compile a list of amendments in a decision to the text of the non-compliance procedure. These amendments were chiefly aimed at streamlining the procedure, for example, by setting specific deadlines for sending replies to the Secretariat and for the Secretariat to transmit information to the Implementation Committee. It also entrusted the Implementation Committee with a new task: to identify the facts and possible causes relating to individual cases of non-compliance referred to the Committee and make appropriate recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties.

14. By the same decision, it was decided that in situations where there has been a persistent pattern of non-compliance by a Party, the Implementation Committee should report and make appropriate recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties with the view to ensuring the integrity of the Montreal Protocol, taking into account the circumstances surrounding the Party's persistent pattern of non-compliance. In this connection, consideration should be given to progress

made by a Party towards achieving compliance and measures taken to help the non-compliant Party return to compliance.

15. It is important to note that the Meeting of the Parties agreed as well to review, unless the Parties decide otherwise, the operation of the non-compliance procedure no later than the end of 2003.

2. Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP)

16. Decision 1997/2 of the Executive Body of the LRTAP Convention establishes an Implementation Committee for the review of compliance by the Parties with their obligations under the protocols to the Convention. While decision 1997/2 has the effect of applying the new compliance regime to all eight LRTAP protocols, for illustrative purposes only the 1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions is mentioned in the present note.

17. In its first report of 1998, the Implementation Committee decided that it would take all its decisions by consensus. Given that this was the first time that there had been a systematic review of the information reported under the Convention, the review revealed many ways in which reporting could be improved or streamlined. With this in mind, the Committee agreed that the aim of its first review was twofold: (i) to inform the Executive Body about the manner in which information had been reported in past years - timeliness, completeness etc.; and (ii) to advise on ways of improving future reporting.

18. In 1999, one of the major tasks of the Implementation Committee was to discuss the structure of a revised questionnaire to be used for reporting by Parties on their strategies and policies for air pollution abatement. Part I of the questionnaire now covers the mandatory reporting requirements under each Protocol to the LRTAP. Part II of the questionnaire poses questions relating to obligations not covered by the mandatory reporting requirements under the protocols and also serves the purpose of general exchange of information under the Convention. The Committee recognized that only experience would show how well the questions had been formulated and that it would be worthwhile to revert to the questions once the first round of reporting had been completed. The new questionnaire required Parties to provide basically the same information as before, but it gave better guidance on what exactly should be covered by the responses. The Implementation Committee also conducted consultations with experts on emission inventories to lay a basis for an evaluation of the quality of nationally reported emission data.

19. In 2000, the Committee received a first case concerning compliance with a provision of the 1994 Sulphur Protocol, and it will present recommendations on this case for consideration by the Executive Body for the Convention in December 2000. The Committee will also prepare an assessment of compliance by Parties with their obligations under the 1985 Sulphur Protocol, and the 1988 Protocol concerning the Control of Nitrogen Oxides or their transboundary fluxes. Furthermore, it will continue its evaluation of Parties compliance with reporting obligations under all protocols.

3. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

20. With regard to the UNFCCC, its article 13 provides that the Conference of the Parties shall, at its first session, consider "the establishment of a multilateral consultative process, available to Parties on their request, for the resolution of questions regarding the implementation of the Convention."

21. Accordingly, the COP 1 of the UNFCCC established an open-ended ad hoc working group of technical and legal experts "to study all issues relating to the establishment of a multilateral consultative process and its design" (FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 20/CP.1).

22. The report of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group on Article 13 (sixth session of June 1998) indicates that there is agreement on key areas such as on the objective, nature, how issues should be taken up, mandate and outcome of the multilateral consultative process (MCP). In the same report, the ad hoc working group recommended the adoption of a multilateral process and the establishment of a Multilateral Consultative Committee reporting to the COP of the UNFCCC (FCCC/AG13/1998/2). It should be said that Parties have not yet agreed on the composition of the Committee, period of time its members shall serve, how they shall rotate and how equitable geographical distribution should be understood. The COP of UNFCCC at its fourth session considered the final report of the Ad Hoc Group on Article 13 and decided to approve partially the text of the multilateral consultative process prepared by the Ad Hoc Group on Article 13, with the exception of the issues concerning the constitution of the members of the multilateral consultative committee and how they should be designated among Annex I and non-Annex I Parties.[3]

23. It is to be noted from the outset that the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, the Second Sulphur Protocol and the UNFCCC have all decided that their respective "resolution of questions" regimes shall apply without prejudice to the provisions of dispute settlement procedures already existing in the individual treaties.

24. The following sections 4 and 5 provide updated information on (a) the procedural aspects and (b) the related institutional aspects of the regimes concerned.

4. Procedural aspects of precedents

25. Procedural aspects of mechanisms for the resolution of questions envisaged under article 27 of the UNCCD could address such substantive issues as: the principles governing implementation, i.e. the objectives and nature of the mechanism; powers assigned to the institutional mechanism; who can invoke the procedure; and the outcome of the procedure.

Objectives

26. The aim of the procedure contained in the Montreal Protocol is to secure "an amicable solution of the matter on the basis of respect for the provisions of the protocol". The system of the Second Sulphur Protocol foresees cooperative measures such as assisting Parties to comply with the Protocol. The objective of the MCP under the UNFCCC is to resolve questions regarding implementation of the UNFCCC by providing advice on assistance to Parties to overcome difficulties encountered in their implementation, promote understanding of the UNFCCC and prevent disputes from arising.

Nature

27. The main principles of the non-compliance regime of the Montreal Protocol are avoidance of complexity, avoidance of confrontation, transparency and the leaving of decision-making to the Meeting of the Parties. Similar principles are to be found in the Second Sulphur Protocol and the UNFCCC regimes. The latter regime specifies that its MCP is facilitative, cooperative, non-confrontational, transparent, timely and non-judicial.

Mandate/function

28. The Montreal Protocol Implementation Committee (MPIC) handles questions regarding non-compliance with the aim of securing an amicable solution.

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[3] FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1 and FCCC/AG13/1998/2.

Likewise, the functions of the Second Sulphur Protocol Implementation Committee include: reviewing periodically compliance by Parties with the reporting requirements of the protocols and considering any submission or referrals made to it with a view to securing a constructive solution.

29. As for the standing Multilateral Consultative Committee of the UNFCCC, its mandate is to consider questions of implementation by: (a) clarifying and resolving questions; (b) providing advice on the procurement of technical and financial resources for the resolution of these difficulties; and (c) providing advice on the compilation and communication of information.

Invoking of procedures

30. The Montreal Protocol and the Second Sulphur Protocol have almost identical provisions relating to the invoking of procedures. Under the former regime the following could invoke the procedures: one or more Parties regarding another Party's implementation; a Party with regard to its own inability to comply fully in spite of its best bona fide efforts; and the secretariat with regard to preparation of reports under the Protocol and on any other information concerning compliance with the Protocol's provisions.

31. However, the role of the secretariat of the Second Sulphur Protocol is greater than that of the Montreal Protocol: it is not limited to the provision of information and is allowed to report on possible non-compliance. If upon reviewing the reports submitted by Parties, it becomes aware of possible non-compliance by any Party, it can request further information on the matter and it can report to the Implementation Committee in the case of failure to resolve the matter through administrative action and diplomatic contacts.

32. With regard to the Multilateral Consultative Process of the UNFCCC, that process is envisaged to be triggered by: (a) a Party with respect to its own implementation; (b) a group of Parties with respect to their own implementation; (c) a Party or group of Parties; and/or (d) the COP of the UNFCCC.

Other powers

33. Where it considers it necessary, the MPIC has the power to request through the secretariat more information on matters under its consideration. It also has the power to undertake information-gathering inside the territory of a Party concerned but only "upon invitation of the Party concerned". The Implementation Committee of the Second Sulphur Protocol possesses similar powers.

34. COP 1 of the UNFCCC provided, *inter alia*, the mandate for undertaking an in-depth review of individual reports of Annex I Parties. That COP also agreed to the possibility of on-site visits to Annex I country Parties, almost all of which extended invitations to this effect.

35. Experience has shown that the in-depth reviews, including country visits, have been conducted in a facilitative and non-confrontational manner. Both are carried out by experts drawn from developed countries, economies in transition and developing countries. Secretariats of several intergovernmental organizations have also provided experts. How the in-depth reviews would relate to article 13 of the UNFCCC remains to be seen.

Outcome

36. The MPIC forwards a report to the Meeting of the Parties of the Montreal Protocol, including any recommendations it considers appropriate. The Implementation Committee of the Second Sulphur Protocol also reports to the LRTAP Parties on its activities at the annual sessions and makes such recommendations as it considers appropriate regarding compliance with the Protocol. Again, the outcome of the MCP of the UNFCCC is envisaged to be a

report that the standing Committee submits to the COP along with concerned Parties' comments on the conclusions and recommendations of the report.

5. Institutional aspects of precedents

37. Issues relating to the institutional aspects of the "resolution of questions" mechanisms include the matter of composition of such a mechanism and the regularity of meetings.

Composition

38. The Implementation Committee of the Montreal Protocol consists of ten members while that of the Second Sulphur Protocol is composed of eight members. Apart from this aspect the two regimes concerned are comparable in matters related to composition. Members of the implementation committees of both the Montreal Protocol and the Second Sulphur Protocol are elected by the Parties of the respective regimes on the basis of equitable geographical distribution.

39. Elected members under the two regimes concerned serve a term of two years and may be re-elected but only for one consecutive term. To ensure a certain level of experience among the members serving on the Committees, only half are replaced every year. Furthermore, the committees concerned elect their own president and vice-president, both of whom serve a one-year term. In the UNFCCC context the question of the composition of the standing committee proposed to be created under article 13 remains unresolved.

Regularity of meetings

40. MPIC meets at least biannually, unless it decides otherwise, and its meetings are organized by the secretariat. The Implementation Committee of the LRTAP meets twice a year, unless it decides otherwise. However, the standing committee proposed to be established for the purpose of article 13 of the UNFCCC is envisaged to meet at least once a year and, whenever practicable, in conjunction with sessions of the COP or its subsidiary bodies.

E. NEW DEVELOPMENTS

1. Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

41. Several other related precedents in the area of resolution of questions are also evolving. First among these is the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC. This Protocol was adopted by the COP of the UNFCCC on 11 December 1997. Article 18 of the Kyoto Protocol requires the COP of the UNFCCC, serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to approve, at its first session, appropriate and effective procedures and mechanisms to determine and address cases of non-compliance with the Protocol, including through the development of an indicative list of consequences, taking into account the cause, type, degree and frequency of non-compliance.

42. At the same time article 16 of the Kyoto Protocol enables the COP of the UNFCCC serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (MOP) to consider and to modify, as appropriate, the application of the MCP referred to in article 13 of the UNFCCC. Any MCP that may be applied to the Kyoto Protocol is to operate without prejudice to the procedures and mechanisms established under article 18 of that Protocol.

43. How the procedures and mechanisms to be developed under the Kyoto Protocol will relate to what is created under article 13 of the UNFCCC remains to be seen. Any modification in the application of the MCP referred to in article 13 for the purposes of the Kyoto Protocol may have an impact on other processes based on that article. Moreover, the provisions of the UNCCD may possibly

overlap with the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol, given the scope and the breadth of the former.

44. In 1999, the COP of the UNFCCC noted the valuable progress made during the tenth and eleventh sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Joint Working Group on compliance (JWG). The advancement was made especially in the understanding and identifying elements, procedures and mechanisms relating to a compliance system under the Kyoto Protocol. However, the COP noted also that much work remained to be done and that efforts must be made to intensify negotiations.

45. At the twelfth session of the subsidiary bodies, the JWG further developed the elements and procedures and mechanisms pertaining to a compliance system based on a synthesis of submissions from previous meetings, discussions held at the eleventh session of the subsidiary bodies and further proposals from Parties. The JWG set out a framework of requisite elements of a compliance system for the Kyoto Protocol. It reflects an emerging consensus on the overall structure of a compliance system. For example, most Parties have proposed a compliance system that will involve the operation of one or more branches, components or procedures for the general treatment of cases. Further discussion is needed on the way in which, and the extent to which, breaches of eligibility requirements under the Kyoto mechanisms would be addressed within the compliance system; the form and nature of any review or appeal; as well as what should be the role of the COP/MOP. A clarification of views would be required for the outcomes or consequences of non-compliance or potential non-compliance; and, finally, decisions which outcomes or consequences would be predetermined and the amount of discretion that the branches, components or procedures should have in applying outcomes or consequences.

46. In brief, UNFCCC continues working on the procedures and mechanisms of a compliance system under the Kyoto Protocol. Negotiations are far from being finalized, but consensus is being achieved in several key issues which pave the road towards a comprehensive and somewhat innovative compliance review system.

47. Article 3 of the UNCCD suggests an approach to implementation that is integrated and based on partnership and participation. If the COP decides that the mechanisms and procedures of article 27 should reflect such an approach, then the participatory notions of article 15 of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Convention on Public Participation) might be of relevance.

2. Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

48. The Convention on Access to Information was adopted by the Environment for Europe Conference held on 23-25 June 1998. It should be borne in mind in considering the possible relevance of this Convention that it relates to a restricted geographic area and has yet to enter into force. Article 15 of that Convention provides for reviewing compliance by requiring the Meeting of the Parties to establish, on a consensus basis, optional arrangements of a non-confrontational, non-judicial and consultative nature for reviewing compliance. The arrangements are to allow for appropriate public involvement and may include the option of considering communications from members of the public on matters related to that Convention.

3. Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

49. Another example lies in article 17 of the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade. This latter convention was adopted and opened for signature in Rotterdam on 10-11 September 1998. The Convention on Prior

Informed Consent also envisages the development of a non-compliance regime. Its article 17 requires the governing body of the Convention concerned to, as soon as practicable, develop and approve procedures and institutional mechanisms for determining non-compliance with the Convention and for treatment of Parties found to be in non-compliance.

50. The Convention on Access to Information as well as The Convention on Public Participation have not yet entered into force, so their possible impact to the UNCCD remains to be seen.

F. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

51. In light of the above review, the COP of the UNCCD either by convening an open-ended working group of experts, may wish to address certain preliminary questions which, already contained in document ICCD/COP(3)/18, might include the following:

(a) What is the relationship between the procedures and institutional mechanisms pursuant to article 27 and the review of implementation by the COP pursuant to article 22, as well as the related provisions on communication of information pursuant to article 26?

(b) What is the relationship between the procedures and institutional mechanisms of article 27 and the dispute settlement procedures provided for under article 28? Are they mutually exclusive, i.e. should recourse to the procedures under one article prevent any recourse under the other?

(c) What are the types or range of questions that could be raised under the procedures and institutional mechanisms pursuant to article 27?

(d) What principles should govern the procedures and institutional mechanisms of article 27? Is it sufficient that they should be simple, transparent, facilitative and non-confrontational in character?

(e) What should the exact nature and composition of the institutional mechanisms contemplated under article 27? Should membership and participation in them be restricted to representatives of Parties or should there be a role for experts such as legal, economic, social or technical experts appointed on a personal basis?

(f) Who can invoke article 27? In other words, could article 27 be triggered by entities other than Parties, for example intergovernmental organizations? non-governmental organizations? the secretariat? the subsidiary bodies of the UNCCD?

(g) Should the procedures and mechanisms be public and open-ended or private? What should be the degree of transparency and flexibility?

(h) At what point in time and under what conditions can a Party trigger the application of the procedures and institutional mecharisms pursuant to article 27?

(i) What would be the time-frame of application of such procedures and mechanisms from the time they are triggered to the time conclusions are reached?

(j) What would be the modalities by which such procedures and mechanisms arrive at their conclusions? What would be the nature of their various phases?

(k) What would be the legal effect, if any, of the conclusions of such procedures and mechanisms?

(l) What measures should be taken for the adoption of the procedures and institutional mechanisms?

II. CONSIDERATION OF ANNEXES CONTAINING ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION PROCEDURES

A. INTRODUCTION

52. In paragraph 5 of its resolution 6/1 entitled "Organization and programme of work for the interim period" (A/50/74, appendix II), adopted at its sixth session, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification (INCD) requested the Interim Secretariat to prepare draft annexes on conciliation and arbitration for its eighth session. Document A/AC.241/50 was prepared in response to that request, and the present note is partly based on that document.

B. BACKGROUND

53. Article 28 of the Convention provides that, when ratifying, accepting, approving, or acceding to the Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party other than a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument that, in respect of any dispute concerning the Convention, it recognizes arbitration and/or submission to the International Court of Justice as compulsory means of dispute settlement in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation.

54. Article 28 further provides that, if the Parties to a dispute have not accepted the same or any procedure and if they have not been able to settle their dispute within twelve months following notification by one Party to another that a dispute exists between them, the dispute shall be submitted to conciliation at the request of any Party to the dispute.

55. Owing to time pressure during the negotiation of the Convention, it was not possible to include annexes on conciliation and arbitration as part of the original text. Hence, paragraphs 2 and 6 of article 28 provide that arbitration and conciliation shall be in accordance with "procedures adopted by the Conference of the Parties in an annex as soon as practicable".

56. At its second session, the Conference of the Parties, by decision 2/COP.2[4], decided to include as a selected item on the agenda for its third and, if necessary, fourth session, consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6 of the Convention. By decision 22/COP.2, the Conference of the Parties decided also to consider this issue further in the light of the progress of the negotiations on the same issues in other relevant environmental conventions with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward. The Conference of the Parties at its third session further decided to establish an open-ended ad hoc group to examine and make recommendations on the issues of arbitration and conciliation procedures, taking into account the document prepared by the secretariat.

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[4] For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its second session, see document ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1.

C. SUBMISSIONS BY PARTIES[5]

1) CANADA

ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION PROCEDURES:

This submission is presented pursuant to III/20 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification (the "COP"), which requests Parties to provide written comments on the questions of:

(a) Procedures for the resolution of questions of implementation (Article 27 of the Convention);

(b) Two draft annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures (Article 28 of the Convention).

(This document reproduces only Part II on conciliation and arbitration procedures as Part I deals with another COP.4 document)

II) CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION

As a general comment, Canada has no fundamental problems with the draft annexes on conciliation and arbitration outlined in document ICCD/COP(3)/7. We note that the text of these draft procedures borrows extensively from previous treaties, and in particular from the Convention on Biological Diversity, to which Canada is a Party.

This being said, we have a few specific comments and questions.

A) Draft Annex on Arbitration:

- regarding Paragraph 2(2), we seek further clarification on the intent of this provision and how it would be implemented in practice;

- regarding Paragraph 3(2), should the procedures also cover cases where there is disagreement as to which Parties share similar interests (see, in this regard, Paragraph 3(2) of the Draft Annex on Conciliation)?

- regarding the last sentence of Article 13, there may be cases where the final decision of the Tribunal does not require a determination that a claim is well founded in fact and law (for instance, in cases where the Tribunal find against the claimant).

B) Draft Annex on Conciliation:

- the annex could be made more comprehensive by adding provisions, similar to those used in the draft Annex on Arbitration, related to:

  - filling vacancies in a Commission;
  - confidential information;
  - costs bearing;
  - right of intervention by Parties to the Convention that are not parties to the dispute;
  - timing for decisions and proposals of a Commission;

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[5] Reproduced without formal editing by the UNCCD secretariat.

- regarding Paragraph 3(2), there is room for further clarification on how the second sentence of this paragraph would apply;

- regarding Article 5, the words "to the dispute" should be added after the words "if asked to do so by a party".

Canada will pursue details of these questions in discussions with Parties at COP4 participating in the proposed Legal Panel.

2) ISRAEL

The position of the State of Israel regarding Decision 20/COP.3: "Resolution of questions of implementation, arbitration and conciliation procedures"

Annex V - Arbitration

Article 2(3):

According to this Article, the Secretariat shall forward the information regarding the dispute, which was submitted to it by the parties, to "all Parties to the Convention".

Such exposure is not desirable, since it might cause publication of the dispute and a "flood" of claims by other Parties, which might complicate the arbitration procedure. Moreover, confidentiality of proceedings and submissions relating to disputes is a principle recognized in various Conventions, inter alia, the WTO.

Therefore, Article 2(3) should read as follows:

"All Tribunal proceedings and submissions made by Parties to the Convention shall be kept confidential".

Article 3(2):

This Article, which provides that "In disputes between more than two parties, parties with same interest shall appoint one arbitrator jointly by agreement", is problematic.

In order for the Tribunal to decide by a majority vote of its members in a given dispute, it must be made up of an odd number. So, should there be, for instance, 3 different interests involved in the same dispute, the appointed 3 arbitrators would (pursuant to Art. 3(1) designate an additional agreed arbitrator. This would result in there being an even number of arbitrators.

Whilst, Israel feels that it is not desirable to force a party to appoint an arbitrator jointly with another party, it recognizes that, without the aforesaid obligation, a situation might be created whereby the interests of the respective parties would not be represented in a balanced manner.

Thus, it is suggested that word "shall" in the existing Article be replaced by the word "may", and an additional sentence, which appears in Article 3(2) in Annex VI regarding conciliation, be added at the end of the Article.

It is noted that, in addition, the word "in" in the sentence "parties in the same interest" should be replaced by the word "with" ("parties with the same interest"). Accordingly, Article 3(2) should read as follows:

"In disputes between more than two parties with the same interest may appoint one arbitrator jointly by agreement. Where two or more parties have separate interests or where is a disagreement as to whether they are of the same interest, they shall appoint their members separately".

Article 4(1):

It is suggested, that certain stipulations (similar to the stipulations which appear in Art. 3(1), regarding the identity of the President of the Tribunal who is designated by the Secretary General of the United Nations, be added to Article 4(1).

Therefore, it is suggested that the following paragraph be added at the end of Article 4(1):

"The designated President shall be proficient and shall not be a national of any of the parties to the dispute, not have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of one of these parties, nor be employed by any of them, not have dealt with the case in any other capacity. The designated President shall be a national of the Party to the Convention with whom all the parties to the dispute have diplomatic relations".

Article 4(2):

Similarly, it is suggested, that certain stipulations (similar to the conditions which appear in Art. 3(1) and to the suggested Art. 4(1) above), regarding the identity of the arbitrator who is designated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, be added to Article 4(2). Therefore, it is suggested that the following paragraph be added at the end of Art. 4(2):

"The designated arbitrator shall be proficient and shall not be a national of any of the parties to the dispute, not have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of one of these parties, nor be employed by any of them, nor have dealt with the case in any other capacity. The designated arbitrator shall be a national to a Party to the Convention with whom the relevant party to the dispute has diplomatic relations".

Article 5:

According to this Article, "the Tribunal shall render its decisions in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and international law". Since the term "international law" can be widely interpreted, it is suggested that the legal sources to which the Tribunal may refer be minimized.

Accordingly, it is suggested that the words "relevant accepted principles of" be added prior to the words "international law".

Article 8:

Prima facie, according to Article 8, and particularly according to Article 8(a), the parties undertake full disclosure of documents, which might be interpreted as including consent to submit confidential documents to the Tribunal. In order to clarify this issue, it is suggested that the existing Article 8 be changed to Sub-Article 8(1), and that a new Sub-Article 3(2), be added, as follows:

"(2) No party shall be required to submit information or present witnesses on issues which it deems confidential for reasons of national security or necessary to protect vital interests of the state"

Article 9:

In accordance with the modification suggested in reference to Art. 2(3) above (absolute confidentiality of the dispute), and to Article 8 (confidentiality of documents and witnesses), it is suggested that Article 9 be modified, and that the words "in confidence" between the words "receive" and "during" be deleted.

Article 10(1):

Notwithstanding the discretion granted to the Tribunal that in particular circumstances distribution of costs shall not be equal, Israel feels that the rule that costs will be borne by the Parties in equal shares should be enforced without exception.

It is therefore suggested, that the first part of Sub-Article 10(1) be omitted, i.e. to omit the words "Unless the Arbitral Tribunal determines otherwise because of the particular circumstances of the case".

Article 13:

Making an award in the absence of a party or due to a failure of a party to defend its case, at the request of the other party, is a drastic remedy. Hence, it is suggested that a procedure, which the Tribunal should apply before making such awards, be determined.

Accordingly, Article 13 would read as follows:

"(1) If one of the parties to the dispute does not appear before the Tribunal or fails to defend its case, the other party may request the Tribunal, in writing, to continue the proceedings and to make its award (hereinafter "the request").

(2) Upon receiving request, the Tribunal shall inform the party failing to appear or respond that such a request has been made, and allow it at least 30 days to respond in writing to the request. In addition, the Tribunal shall schedule a hearing on the issue and invite non-appearing or non-responding party to appear at the hearing and present its argument.

(3) If a party fails to respond to the request or fails to appear at the hearing, the Tribunal may then decide to continue proceedings, with the proviso that it may only do so if it satisfies itself that the claim is well founded in the fact and law".

Article 14:

It is generally accepted that parties to a dispute may agree on matters of procedure, and that such a consent binds the tribunal or court. Therefore, it is suggested that Article 14 be modified, as follows:

"The parties may agree on rules of procedure that shall govern the dispute and which shall bind the Tribunal. In absence of such agreed rules, decisions on both the procedure and substance of the Tribunal shall be consistent with the Convention and its Annex".

A new Article (before Art. 15)- Interim Review stage:

Since the awards and decisions of the Tribunal bind the parties according to international law, and in view of the fact that there is no appeal procedure, Israel feels that the parties should be able to submit their comments on the draft report of the Tribunal, before it makes its final award. Indeed, a unique procedure of arbitration has developed in international law, according to which

parties are able to submit their comments on the draft award of the Tribunal, before the final award was made, and only after receiving the comments does the Tribunal makes its final award. This interim procedure enables the parties to negotiate at an advanced stage of the proceedings.

Thus, it is suggested that a new article (before Art. 15) be added, as follows:

"Interim review stage:

(1) Following the consideration of submissions and oral arguments, the Tribunal shall issue the descriptive (factual and argument) sections of its draft report to the parties to the dispute. Within a period of time set by the Tribunal, the parties shall submit their comments in writing.

(2) Following the expiration of the set period of time for receipt of comments from the parties to the dispute, the Tribunal shall issue an interim report to the parties, including both the descriptive sections and the Tribunal's findings and conclusions. Within a period of time set by the Tribunal, a party may submit a written request to the Tribunal to review particular aspects of the interim report. At the request of a party, the Tribunal shall hold another meeting with the parties on the issues identified in the written comments. If no comments are received from any party within the comment period, the interim report shall be considered the final panel report and issued as such to the parties.

(3) The findings of the final Tribunal report shall include a discussion of the arguments made at the interim review stage".

Annex VI - Conciliation

Article 2:

It is suggested the words "Paragraph 4" be added after the words "Article 24".

Article 3(i):

It is suggested that certain stipulations regarding the identity of the chosen President of the Conciliation Commission (similar to the stipulations which appear on Art. 3(i) to Annex V and in the suggested Article 4(1) to Annex V), be added to Article 3(i). Therefore, it is suggested that the following paragraph be added at the end of Article 3(i), as follows:

"The designated President shall not be a national of any of the parties to the dispute, nor have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of one of these parties, nor be employed by any of them, nor have dealt with the case in any other capacity. The designated President shall be a national of a Party to the Convention with whom all the parties to the dispute have diplomatic relations".

Article 4:

Similarly, it is suggested that certain stipulations regarding the identity of the conciliator (similar to the stipulations which appear in Article 3(i) to Annex V and in the suggested Article 3 to this Annex), be added to Article 4 (regarding the appointment of the conciliator by the Secretary-General of the United Nations).

Hence, it is suggested that the existing Article 4 be changed to Article 4(1), and the following Sub-Articles be added:

(2) The appointed conciliator shall be proficient and shall not be a national of any of the parties to the dispute, not have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of one of these parties, not be employed by any of them, nor have dealt with the case in any other capacity.

(3) The appointed conciliator shall be a national to a Party to the Convention with whom the relevant party to the dispute has diplomatic relations".

(4) The appointment of the conciliator shall be subject to the relevant party's consent".

A New Article - Confidentiality:

It is suggested that a new article be added, under which all documents submitted to the Conciliation Commission, all proceedings and all its internal discussions and proposals shall be confidential.

Thus, it is suggested that a new article be added, as follows:

"Confidentiality:

All Commission proceedings and submissions made by the parties shall be kept confidential".

Article 9:

According to Article 9, "The Conciliation Commission shall render a proposal for resolution of the dispute, which the parties shall consider in good faith". The existing article does not oblige the Commission to help the parties to reach a mutually agreed upon solution, before it officially renders a proposal for resolution. Since the proposals of the Commission, although not binding, have input on the parties, we support determining a preliminary procedure according to which the Commission shall attempt to help the parties to reach a mutually agreed upon solution. Only if such attempt fails, may the Commission present a proposal for the resolution of the dispute to the parties.

Accordingly, it is suggested that the existing Article 9 be replaced by the following Article:

"The Conciliation Commission shall attempt to help the parties to reach a mutually agreed upon solution. If after seriously making such attempt, the Conciliation commission is of the view that such a solution cannot be achieved, then the Conciliation Commission may present a proposal for the resolution of the dispute to the parties. The proposal shall be confidential, and shall be presented to the parties only. The parties shall consider the proposal of the Conciliation Commission in good faith".

3) MADAGASCAR

Decision 20/COP.3: Resolution of questions of implementation, arbitration and conciliation procedures: the Government of Madagascar supports the proposal to hold negotiations in parallel with those of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

4) PORTUGAL ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

Arbitration and Conciliation Procedures

The European Union is very grateful to the Secretariat for producing the draft texts concerning arbitration and conciliation procedures contained in the annex to document UNEP/CHW/CG/1/3, which we believe provides an excellent basis for further discussion.

The European Union welcomes the opportunity provided by the open-ended ad hoc group of experts to develop conciliation and arbitration procedures under Article 20 at COP 1.

We believe that the development of procedures should be a reasonably straightforward task, since the Secretariat's proposed texts in the annex closely follow the form and content of the conciliation and arbitration procedures already in place for other multilateral environmental agreements, especially those of the Biodiversity Convention.

The European Union can, to a very large extent, agree with what is proposed in the Secretariat's texts as set out in the annex to UNEP/CHW.1/3. But will be happy to discuss variations others might raise at COP.4 with a view to refining their content still further. In view of how well precedented the proposed conciliation and arbitration procedures are, we consider that it should be possible to complete negotiation of them and adopt them at COP4.

D. STATUS OF ANNEXES AND PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTION

57. Consistent with article 19 of the Convention, annexes on arbitration and conciliation will form an integral part of the Convention. Once adopted by the Conference of the Parties in accordance with article 19, they shall enter into force for all Parties to the Convention six months after the date of communication by the Depositary of their adoption, except for Parties which notify in writing their non-acceptance, in accordance with article 19.

E. TIMING OF ADOPTION OF ANNEXES

58. The Convention did not require the adoption of annexes on conciliation and arbitration at the first session of the Conference of the Parties. It rather provided that such annexes shall be adopted "as soon as practicable".

F. THE DRAFT ANNEXES

59. Procedures for arbitration and conciliation to resolve disputes relating to the interpretation or application of conventions abound. The wording and structure of such procedures is, therefore, well established. In preparing the drafts it appeared most appropriate to find inspiration in precedents, with the important proviso that procedures must be adapted to the subject-matter in hand. Precedents examined include the Optional Rules for Arbitrating Disputes Between Two States of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, Annex VI of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Basel Convention), procedures pursuant to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (Vienna Convention), Annex II of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD).

60. In light of the substantive provisions contained in the UNCCD, it would appear that flexible and concise procedures would be best suited to the Convention. Such procedures would let the Parties adapt the procedures to

relevant circumstances. In any case, they should not involve cumbersome proceedings for the Parties. Against this background, the draft annexes above-mentioned are largely modelled on concise procedures such as relevant annexes of the UNCBD and the Basel Convention rather than the longer form of the Rules of the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

1) Draft annex on arbitration

61. A first draft annex on arbitration and a draft annex on conciliation procedures was submitted at the third session of the Conference of the Parties contained in ICCD/COP(3)/7. These annexes have further been updated in conformity with views and comments submitted by Parties and other interested institutions. Consequently, new relevant developments and trends and specific features addressing the nature and legal characteristics of the UNCCD have been included.

62. The revised draft of both annexes thus intends to respond to the needs of possible disputes that may arise in the process of the implementation of the Convention. The draft annex on arbitration procedures proposes some changes, i. e. article 2 (content of the notification of a claimant Party to the Permanent Secretariat), article 6 (conduct of proceedings), article 8 (interim measures of protection), article 18 (authority of award) and article 19 (controversy in interpretation or implementation).

ARBITRATION

Purpose

Article 1

The present Annex provides the procedures for arbitration referred to in article 28 of the Convention.

Notification of disputes

Article 2

1. The claimant Party shall notify the Permanent Secretariat that the Parties are referring a dispute to arbitration pursuant to article 28 of the Convention. The notification shall state:

(a) The subject-matter of arbitration;

(b) The articles of the Convention, the interpretation or application of which are at issue;

(c) A statement of the facts supporting the claim; and

(d) The relief or remedy sought.

2. If the Parties do not agree on the subject-matter of the dispute before the President of the Arbitral Tribunal is designated pursuant to Article 3, the Tribunal shall determine the subject-matter.

3. The Permanent Secretariat shall forward the information thus received to all Parties to the Convention.

Appointment of arbitrators

Article 3

1. In disputes between two parties, a Tribunal shall be established consisting of three members. Each of the parties to the dispute shall appoint an arbitrator and the two arbitrators so appointed shall designate by common agreement the third arbitrator who shall be the President of the Tribunal. The latter shall not be a national of any of the parties to the dispute, nor have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of one of these parties, nor be employed by any of them, nor have dealt with the case in any other capacity.

2. In disputes between more than two parties, parties in the same interest shall appoint one arbitrator jointly by agreement.

3. Any vacancy shall be filled in the manner prescribed for the initial appointment.

Failure to appoint arbitrator or designate President

Article 4

1. If the President of the Tribunal has not been designated within two months of the appointment of the second arbitrator, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, at the request of a Party, designate the President within a further two-month period.

2. If one of the Parties to the dispute does not appoint an arbitrator within two months of receipt of the request, the other Party may inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall make the designation within a further two-month period.

Basis for decisions

Article 5

1. The Tribunal shall render its decisions in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and international law.

Conduct of proceedings

Article 6

The Tribunal may conduct the arbitration in such a manner as it considers appropriate, provided that the parties are treated with equality and that any stage of the proceedings each party is given a full opportunity of presenting its case.

Rules of procedure

Article 7

Unless the parties to the dispute otherwise agree, the Arbitral Tribunal shall determine its own rules of procedure.

Interim measures of protection

Article 8

1. The Tribunal may, at the request of one of the Parties, recommend essential interim measures of protection.

2. Such interim measures shall be established in the form of an interim award.

3. The Tribunal shall be entitled to require security for the costs of such measures.

Facilitating work of the Tribunal

Article 9

The parties to the dispute shall facilitate the work of the Arbitral Tribunal and, in particular, using all means at their disposal, shall:

(a) Provide it with all relevant documents, information and facilities; and

(b) Enable it, when necessary, to call witnesses or experts and receive their evidence.

Confidentiality of information

Article 10

The parties and the arbitrators are under an obligation to protect the confidentiality of any information they receive in confidence during the proceedings of the Tribunal.

Costs of Tribunal

Article 11

1. Unless the Arbitral Tribunal determines otherwise because of the particular circumstances of the case, the costs of the Tribunal shall be borne by the parties to the dispute in equal shares.

2. The Tribunal shall keep a record of all its costs, and shall furnish a final statement thereof to the parties.

Intervention in proceedings

Article 12

Any Party to the Convention that has an interest of a legal nature in the subject-matter of the dispute, which may be affected by the decision in the case, may intervene in the proceedings with the consent of the Tribunal.

Counter-claims

Article 13

The Tribunal may hear and determine counter-claims arising directly out of the subject-matter of the dispute.

Non-appearance of a party

Article 14

If one of the parties to the dispute does not appear before the Tribunal or fails to defend its case, the other party may request the Tribunal to continue the proceedings and to make its award. The absence of a party or a failure of a party to defend its case shall not constitute a bar to the proceedings. Before rendering its final decision, the Tribunal must satisfy itself that the claim is well founded in fact and law.

Majority for decision

Article 15

Decisions both on procedure and substance of the Tribunal shall be taken by a majority vote of its members.

Time limit for final decision

Article 16

The Tribunal shall render its final decision within five months of the date on which it is fully constituted unless it finds it necessary to extend the time limit for a period which should not exceed five more months.

Final decision

Article 17

The final decision of the Tribunal shall be confined to the subject-matter of the dispute and shall state the reasons on which it is based. It shall contain the names of the members who have participated and the date of the final decision. Any member of the Tribunal may attach a separate or dissenting opinion to the final decision.

Authority of award

Article 18

1. The award shall be made in writing and binding on the parties to the dispute. It shall be without appeal unless the parties to the dispute have agreed in advance to an appellate procedure.

2. The parties undertake to carry out the award without delay.

3. The final decision may be made public only with the consent of both parties.

Controversy on interpretation or implementation

Article 19

Within sixty days after the receipt of the final decision, either party, with notice to the other party, may request that the Tribunal give an interpretation of the final decision or the manner in which it shall be implemented.

Italicized headings

Article 20

The italicized headings of the present procedures are for reference purposes only. They shall be disregarded in the interpretation of the procedures.

2) Draft annex on conciliation

63. As with the previous annex, the draft annex on conciliation has undergone several modifications and additions to make it more in tone with relevant developments and account has also been made of comments and suggestions by Parties. These improvements are found in paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 2 (creation and beginning of work of Conciliation Commission), article 8 (costs of the proceedings), article 9 (submission of statements), article 10 (role of the Conciliation Commission), article 11 (co-operation with the Conciliation Commission) and paragraph 2 of article 13.

CONCILIATION

Purpose

Article 1

The present Annex provides the procedures for conciliation referred to in article 28 of the Convention.

Creation of Conciliation Commission

Article 2

1. A Conciliation Commission shall be created at the request of any party to a dispute in accordance with the provisions of article 28, paragraph 6 of the Convention.

2. Conciliation proceedings commence when the other party accepts the invitation to conciliate. If the acceptance is made orally, it is advisable that it confirmed in writing.

3. If the party rejects the invitation, there will be no conciliation proceedings.

Composition and appointment of members

Article 3

1. The Conciliation Commission shall, unless the parties otherwise agree, be composed of five members, two appointed by each party concerned and a President chosen jointly by those members.

2. In disputes between more than two parties, parties in the same interest shall appoint their members of the Commission jointly by agreement. Where two or more parties have separate interests or there is a disagreement as to whether they are of the same interest, they shall appoint their members separately.

Failure to appoint members within time limit

Article 4

If any appointments by the parties are not made within two months of the date of the request to create a Conciliation Commission, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, if asked to do so by the party that made the request, make those appointments within a further two-month period.

Failure to appoint President within time limit

Article 5

If a President of the Conciliation Commission has not been designated within two months of the last of the members of the Commission being appointed, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, if asked to do so by a party to the dispute, designate a President within a further two-month period.

Procedure

Article 6

The Conciliation Commission shall, unless the Parties to the dispute otherwise agree, determine its own procedure.

Decisions on competence

Article 7

A disagreement as to whether the Conciliation Commission has competence shall be decided by the Commission.

Costs of the proceedings

Article 8

The costs are borne equally by the parties unless the settlement agreement provides for a different apportionment.

Submission of statements

Article 9

1. The Conciliation Commission, upon its appointment, requests each party to submit a written statement describing the general nature of the dispute and the points at issue. Each party shall send a copy of its statement to the other party.

2. The Conciliation Commission may request each party to submit a further written statement of its position and the facts and grounds in support thereof, supplemented by any documents and other evidence that such party deems appropriate. The party shall send a copy of its statement to the other party.

Role of the Conciliation Commission

Article 10

1. The Conciliation Commission assists the parties in an independent and impartial manner in their attempt to reach an amicable settlement of their dispute.

2. The Conciliation Commission may conduct the conciliation proceedings in such a manner as he considers appropriate, taking into account the circumstances of the case, the wishes the parties may express, including any request that the need for a speedy settlement of dispute.

3. The Conciliation Commission may, at any time of the conciliation proceedings, make proposals for a settlement of the dispute.

Co-operation with the Conciliation Commission

Article 11

The parties shall co-operate with the Conciliation Commission, in particular, shall endeavour to comply with requests by the Commission to submit written materials, provide evidence and attend meetings.

Majority required for decisions

Article 12

Decisions both on procedure and substance of the Conciliation Commission shall be taken by a majority vote of its members.

Proposal for resolution

Article 13

1. The Conciliation Commission shall render a proposal for resolution of the dispute, which the parties shall consider in good faith.

2. If the parties reach an agreement on a settlement of the dispute, they draw up and sign a written settlement agreement. If requested by the parties, the Conciliation Commission can draw up or assist the parties in drawing up the settlement agreement.

Italicized headings

Article 14

The italicized headings of the present procedures are for reference purposes only. They shall be disregarded in the interpretation of the procedures.

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UNITED
NATIONS

Convention to Combat
Desertification

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fourth session
Bonn, 11-22 December 2000
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

ACCREDITATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

Note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with Article 22, paragraph 7 of the Convention, and rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties (decision 1/COP.1, ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1), the secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties accredits as observers:

(a) The national, international, governmental and intergovernmental organizations listed in annex I;

(b) The non-governmental organizations listed in annex II.

2. Assuming accreditation by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session of the organizations referred to in paragraph 1 above, the updated list of national, international, governmental and intergovernmental organizations accredited to the Conference of the Parties is contained in annex III and the updated list of non-governmental organizations accredited to the Conference of the Parties is contained in annex IV.

* ICCD/COP(4)/1.

Annex I

NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, GOVERNMENTAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS PROPOSED FOR ACCREDITATION TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

1. Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD)
P O Box: 2440
Damascus
Syrian Arab Republic
Tel: (963 11) 532 3039 or 532 3087
Fax: (963 11) 532 3063
email: ACSAD@net.SY

2. Communauté des Etats Sahelo-Sahariens (CEN-SAD)
P O Box: 4041
Tripoli
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Tel: (218) 361 4832/34
Fax: (218) 333 2116

Annex II

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS PROPOSED FOR ACCREDITATION TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

1. Alternatives (Communauté d'action pour la mobilisation des initiatives pour un développement intégral)
BP 8506
Lome
Togo
Tel: (228) 216 120
Fax: (228) 224 119
Established: 1990
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Organizes environmental awareness programmes for the general public and small communities. Installs tree nurseries to be used by the community and facilitates the community's access to micro-credits and saving systems. Provides technical and material support to community-based organizations and undertakes social and educational activities to increase the awareness of the community on environmental matters.

2. Amasachina Self Help Association
PO Box TL798
Tamale, Northern Region
Ghana
Tel: (233 71) 22 805
Fax: (233 71) 22 793
Email: amasachina@502cc.africaonline.com.gh
Established: 1967
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Aims to strengthen communities through self-help initiatives. Projects undertaken in collaboration with partner organizations include: the construction of community woodlots, the development of central seed nurseries, roadside planting of trees, and the introduction of suitably adapted tree and fruit varieties. Implements education and awareness-raising activities to support and sustain community-level projects through the utilization of indigenous traditional methods, such as drumming and dancing. Maintains the respect of the traditional village hierarchy and the traditional beliefs, and aims to incorporate traditional cultural values in community projects.

3. Association de l'arbre
BP 4059
Nouakchott
Mauritania
Tel: (222) 253 509
Fax: (222) 253 509
Email: larbre@iiardd.mr
Established: 1996
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Promotes the establishment of tree plantations and participates in reforestation and market gardening activities. Organizes awareness events with the aim of controlling desertification and pollution. Combats the destruction of the savannah by collaborating with other organizations on the implementation of reforestation projects. Edits a monthly magazine to inform, raise awareness and educate the population on environmental issues. Elaborates action plans and alphabetization campaigns to combat poverty.

4. Association des amis de la Saoura
Lycée El-Achaari-Bechar
Bechar 0800
Algeria
Tel: (213 7) 811 390
Fax: (213 7) 817 313 / 835 879
Established: 1992
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Cooperates with governmental institutions in the realization of a course on environmental education. Undertakes activities for celebrating the world day to combat desertification. Acts as focal point for desertification NGOs at the national level and participates in the national committee of NGOs. Develops programmes aimed at raising awareness, exchange of information and education on environmental and development concerns.

5. Association internationale forêts méditerranéennes
14, rue Louis Astouin
Marseille 13002
France
Tel:(33 4) 9190 7670
Fax:(33 4) 9190 7162
Email: foretmed@free.fr
Established: 1996
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Facilitates the exchange of information and knowledge on natural and forestry environments. Promotes international cooperation on environmental, technical and social aspects particularly in the development of forestry environments. Organizes talk-shops, expositions and national and international meetings aimed at environmental and development issues.

6. Association Mauritanienne pour le bien être et le secours de l'enfant et de la mère
BP 2537
Nouakchott
Mauritania
Tel: (222) 259 972
Fax: (222) 254 505
Email: ambsem@ilardd.mr
Established: 1994
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Undertakes activities to improve the living conditions of the population through the mobilization, education and training of mothers and children. Finances projects to be developed by women living in rural areas. Promotes reforestation activities through the creation of tree nurseries. Ultimate aim of the organization is to improve the social situation of mothers and children.

7. Association pour la protection de l'environnement
BP 845
N'djamena
Chad
Tel: (235) 517 300
Fax: (235) 515 393
Established: 1991
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Trains and educates farmers on subjects related to desertification and the environment. Participates as a member of the Environmental Forum of Chad. Distributes plants to create tree nurseries for combating desertification. Participates in programmes to create formation and training structures in rural and community sectors.

8. Association pour le développement d'Abeir
BP 40004
Nouakchott
Mauritania
Tel: (222) 290 258
Fax: (222) 252 341
Email: abere@ifrance.com / tendawally@lisuisse.com
Established: 2000
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Elaborates evaluation studies to promote the region socially and economically. Undertakes actions in collaboration with international partners to protect the environment against the effects of drought and desertification and to improve the living conditions of vulnerable communities. Follows and assists in the training of five cooperatives, particularly for women's development.

9. Association pour le développement économique social environnemental du nord (ADESEN)
205 rue Calvet, Sor
Saint-Louis
Senegal
Tel: (221 9) 613 522
Fax: (221 9) 641 007
Email: adesen@yahoo.com
Established: 1999
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Carries out programmes and projects aiming towards a positive and viable economic and social development of local communities. Organizes a programme on the exchange of information and education on environmental issues, regarding which it has been developing subjects such as environmental education, management of natural resources and reforestation. Undertakes lobbying activities and promotes the sustainable and reasonable management of natural resources and the environment. Studies the possibility of creating a micro-credit system for the local community.

10. Club Unesco du centre d'action femme et enfant (CUCAFE/ONG)
191 av. Katambare commune de Lingwala
Kinshasa
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Tel: not given
Fax: (243 1) 220 022
Email: cucafe_ong@yahoo.fr
Established: 1994
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Organizes awareness and information days and undertakes alphabetization programmes for women living in rural areas and seminars for training young people, women and farmers. Implements activities aimed at assisting the most vulnerable sector of society, i.e. children and young mothers, through education on environmental matters and the conservation of natural resources.

11. Cooperazione per lo sviluppo dei Paesi Emergenti (COSPE)
Via Slataper 10, 50134
Firenze
Italy
Tel: (39 055) 473 556
Fax: (39 055) 472 806
Email: mc8008@mclink.it
Established: 1987
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Undertakes feasibility and evaluation studies for projects and thereafter project logistics and management. Collaborates with partners in developing countries, assisting the development of appropriate technologies, small-scale enterprises and income-generating activities such as fruit-growing farms, credit saving programmes and eco-tourism. Implements vocational and management training in areas of rural development and assists in the rehabilitation of infrastructures. Provides technical assistance and assists with financial support.

12. Enviro-protect
BP 13623
Yaounde
Cameroon
Tel: (237) 237 620 / 206 599
Fax: (237) 235 441 / 214 609 / 221 873
Email: Enviro-protect@MailAndNews.com
Established: 1990
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Supports the formulation of micro-projects for the sustainable development of women's groups. Carries out rural development programmes for groups of women and young people paying special attention to the use of technologies and forestry resources. Undertakes activities to reinforce the capacity of the local population; i.e. training in production techniques, organizational support to create or manage functional groups. Supports local populations to acquire and manage village forests, to reforest and reconstruct degraded areas.

13. Environmental Research Centre ENVIRC
103 Bogenbai batyr Str. 480100
Almaty
Republic of Kazakhstan
Tel: 7 (3272) 615 097 / 617 815
Fax: 7 (3272) 617 938
Email: envirc@online.ru
Established: 1992
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Implements projects on the organization of protected areas, ecological mapping, environmental impact assessment and restoration of degraded lands. Charts ecological maps detailing vegetation, soil, ecosystem and geological factors of designated areas and assesses the ecological resource potential of ecosystems. Organizes scientific expeditions in the region. Encourages the popularization of new scientific approaches in the field of environmental conservation and cartographic works.

Forum international des exploitants forestières
Avenue MUANDA 69, quartier Mfinda BP 16239
Kinshasa
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Tel: not given
Fax: not given
Established: 1998
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Carries out research and analyses activities on tropical forests, the wood industry and forestry. Promotes the protection of fragile forestry ecosystems and the development of forestry legislation. Fulfils activities aiming at social and environmental development e.g. eco-tourism, promotion of renewable energy and promotion of alternative activities to conserve forestry resources.

Frank-Link Associates (F.A.)
P O Box 5074
Bamenda, North West Province
Cameroon
Tel: (237) 363 972
Fax: (237) 361 281
Email: melcom@doualal.com
Established: 1993
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Promotes sustainable livelihood systems such as market gardening, tree nurseries and food crop production. Aims to empower community-based organizations in domains such as traditional knowledge, self-development, rational management of natural resources, conflict resolution and gender issues. Implements activities to empower women in land use management and production and also supports women's groups and federations. Integrates women into regional committees. Contributes to the functioning of different local environmental networks.

Friends of the Environment
PO Box 27444
Kampala
Uganda
Tel: (256 077) 435 067
Fax: (256 41) 541 497
Established: 1998
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: Organizes seminars in schools, universities and public venues to raise awareness of the importance of protecting the environment and combating desertification. Aims to combat drought by planting trees and protecting wetlands. Trains communities on better methods of agriculture such as reforestation, contour ploughing and mixed farming. Works with local community leaders for the mobilization of the population to combat desertification.

Fundación 2001/ Global Nature
C/ Capitán Haya 23, 28020
Madrid
Spain
Tel: (34 91) 556 9390 / 556 5715
Fax: (34 91) 556 9895
Email: fond.madrid@teleline.es
Established: 1994
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Trains farmers and local communities on the application of mechanical methods to control soil erosion through non-aggressive techniques. Implements activities aimed at making soil conservation an integral part of local planning. Compiles scientific data on erosive processes and the degradation of agricultural forestry systems. Supports and supervises a laboratory created for the study of soil erosion and degradation in agricultural systems; implements with the support of national institutions two "Life" projects of the European Commission: one on wetlands protection and another on controlling erosion.

18. Groupement des handicapés producteurs de Ouagadougou (GHPO) Wend-Songré
BP 8068
Ouagadougou 04
Burkina Faso
Tel: (226) 311 427
Fax: (226) 307 776
Established: 1992
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Undertakes activities with the aim of training and integrating into society handicapped people. Organizes trees plantations and reforestation activities. Helps in the installation of sustainable irrigation systems and in the development of fertilisers based on animal manure.

19. Inner Mongolia Arid Land Management Foundation
605 N. Marguerita Ave#2, Ca 91801
Alhambra
United States of America
Tel: (1 626) 308 1666
Fax: (1 626) 458 2666
Email: lstgroup@delin-iv-im.com
Established: 2000
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Undertakes activities to celebrate the world day to combat desertification i.e. hosting of a press conference. Raises awareness of the international community about the arid conditions across the Inner Mongolia of China. Encourages the international community to support the input of technology to be used in arid lands. Trains people to study or research arid conditions in the area.

20. Institute for Rural Resources Development Studies
Bremis I. JI Melati No. 5 PO Box 15
Lombok
Indonesia
Tel: not given
Fax: (52 0376) 22 655
Established: 1992
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Aims to improve the quality of human living conditions through the empowerment of women by creating self-help groups and credit unions. Promotes sustainable development and management of agricultural dryland resources through income-producing crops. Produces seeds to be distributed among the local population at affordable prices.

. International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change
Walter-Flex-Str. 3
53115 Bonn
Germany
Tel: (49 228) 739 050
Fax: (49 228) 739 054
Email: ihdp@uni-bonn.de
Established: 1990
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: Promotes and coordinates research aimed at analysing and describing the human dimensions of global environmental change. Carries out projects on land use and land cover change, addressing issues of land degradation, desertification and vulnerability. Undertakes scientific activities dealing with land degradation.

2. NAHL Environmental Protection Society
PO Box 15301 Amman St. Diplomatic Zone
Sanaa
Yemen
Tel: (967 1) 401 828
Fax: (967 1) 401 828
Email: NEPS@hotmail.com
Established: 1998
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Carries out large reforestation programmes. Publishes articles regularly for the education of the population on desertification. Contributes actively to various workshops and seminars showing the dangers of advancing deserts. Prepares proposals with neighbouring countries to create green belts at the borders.

3. Organisation pour la sauvegarde de l'environnement, l'amélioration de l'habitat et la lutte contre les catastrophes naturelles
BP 3228
Kinshasa/Gombe
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Tel: not given
Fax: not given
Email: oseahc@hotmail.com
Established: 1995
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Undertakes actions to rehabilitate the environment such as reforestation, reparation of roads, water preservation and anti-erosion activities. Organizes environmental awareness seminars, debates, and conferences. Contributes to the University Institute of environmental sciences techniques and management of catastrophes and produces didactic and visual material. Administers a library covering environmental matters and carries out research on environmental issues such as water decontamination. Hosts young researchers and foreign students.

24. Perimart International
P O Box 33976
Nairobi
Kenya
Tel: (254 2) 243 989
Fax: (254 2) 243 989
Email: perimart@iconnect.co.ke
Established: 1999
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: Develops programmes dealing with food security; one on regional food security and another on arid land crops. Mobilizes and assists selected NGOs, CBOs and local communities to mitigate the effects of desertification and land use conflicts. Improves mechanisms and strategies that makes it easier for local communities to be a part of the decision-making process at all levels.

25. Rural Development Organisation
PO Box 428
Mbouda, Bamboutos Division
Cameroon
Tel: not given
Fax: not given
Established: 1997
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Works to improve hygiene and sanitation in schools and homes, especially for pregnant women. Improves farming conditions through the use of green manure and planting of trees. Educates rural populations on the importance of clean water and protects existing water resources.

26. SOS - Sahel international
Terre-air-mer
BP 22055
Dakar-Ponty
Senegal
Tel: (221) 641 2310/641 3273
Fax: (221) 822 0891
Established: 1994
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Organizes awareness seminars for local populations on the protection of the environment and the combat against desertification. Participates in national reforestation campaigns organised by the Environment Ministry.

27. SOS - Sahel international
8, rue Robert Brun
Dakar
Senegal
Tel: (211) 822 4254
Fax: (211) 822 7385
Established: 1976
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: Promotes the sustainable management of natural resources through small scale village irrigation projects. Implements soil rehabilitation programmes through reforestation activities, e.g. creating village wood lots and encouraging the use of renewable energy. Creates small village clinics offering medical services.

28. Suntaa-Nuntaa Rural Development Programme
P O Box 207
WA. Upper West Region
Ghana
Tel: (233) 756 22215
Fax: (233) 756 22225
Email: suntaa@africaonline.com.gh
Established: 1990
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Creates women's groups in agroforestry for income generation. Trains local people, farmers and youth groups in tree nursing and planting activities. Develops loan schemes to improve local economies.

29. Sustainable Negev - Negev Bar Kayma
P O Box 125
Omer, 84965
Israel
Tel: (972 7) 690 204/5
Fax: (972 7) 646 9247
Email: bmnegev@netvision.net.il
Established: 1999
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Organizes a course for teachers on environmental problems. Carries out surveys on environmental hazards in the region. Elaborates documents on alternative land use and combined treatment of solid waste to be distributed among decision makers and the local and national media.

30. Swabi Women Welfare Society (SWWS)
Sirajpur Karnal Sher Killi District Swabi North West Frontier Provence
Swabi
Pakistan
Tel: (92 938) 310 059/310 161
Fax: (92 938) 310 059
Email: javedakt@brain.net.pk
Established: 1991
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: Encourages and guides women to initiate their own businesses, assisting them financially or creating linkages with financial institutions. Emphasizes the importance of the primary education of girls. Improves health and living conditions by establishing maternity and child health-care centres and mobile camps. Encourages and supports community leaders to participate in workshops and meetings at the national level.

Annex III

UPDATED LIST OF NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, GOVERNMENTAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOLLOWING ACCREDITATION BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

1. African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACPGS)
2. African Development Bank (ADB)
3. African Organization of Cartography and Remote-Sensing
4. Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACTC)
5. Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands - ACSAD
6. Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)
7. Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)
8. Asian African Legal Consultative Committee (AALCC)
9. CAB International
10. Centre for Environment and Development, Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE)
11. Commonwealth Secretariat
12. Communauté des Etats Sahelo-Sahariens (CEN-SAD)
13. Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research/International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (CGIAR/ICRISAT)
14. Council of Europe
15. Economic and Monetary Union of West Africa
16. Economic Community of West African States/Communauté Economique des États de L'Afrique de l'Ouest (ECOWAS/CEDEAO)
17. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
18. International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
19. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
20. International Organization for Migration
21. International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI)
22. League of Arab States
23. Organization of African Unity (OAU)
24. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
25. Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)
26. Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)
27. Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS)
28. Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands (RAMSAR)
29. Southern African Regional Commission for the Conservation and Utilization of Soil (SARCCUS)
30. Southern African Development Community (SADC)
31. Sovereign Military Order of Malta
32. Union douanière et économique de l'Afrique centrale, communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique (UDEAC-CEMAC)

Annex IV

UPDATED LIST OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOLLOWING ACCREDITATION BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

1. ACFE/SAHEL- Appui conseil femmes environnement développement au Sahel, Burkina Faso
2. ACTIONAID, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
3. Action communautaire pour la protection de l'environnement (ACPE), Cameroon
4. Action for Development (AFORD), Mauritius
5. Action Humaine pour le Développement Intégré au Sénégal (AHDIS), Senegal
6. Action pour une Gestion Rationnelle de l'Environnement en Mauritanie (AGREEM), Mauritania
7. Actions pour le développement rural intégré, Niger
8. Actions pour la lutte contre la désertification au Sahel - ALUDES, Niger
9. ADRINOK-Centre d'appui au développement rural intégré du Nord-Kivu, Rwanda
10. Africa Harvest Mission, Nigeria
11. Africa Resources Trust, Zimbabwe
12. African American Islamic Institute, Inc., Senegal
13. African Association for Literacy and Adult Education, Kenya
14. African Association of Development Education, Togo
15. African Centre for Technology Studies, Kenya
16. African Forum For Mathematical Ecology, Ethiopia
17. Afrique environnementale (AE), Centre africain de protection environnementale et pour l'assistance, Côte d'Ivoire
18. Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, Egypt
19. Agricultural and Environmental Development Foundation, Sri Lanka
20. Agro-Galliness Farm, Sierra Leone
21. Aide au Sahel, Mali
22. Aide aux femmes et enfants desherités de l'iguidi(AFEDI), Mauritania
23. AKSS, India
24. All Africa Students Union (AASU), Ghana
25. All Pakistan Youth Federation, Pakistan
26. Al Nasser Ladies Center, Jordan
27. Alternatives (Communauté d'action pour la mobilisation des initiatives pour un développement intégral), Togo
28. Amasachina Self Help Association, Ghana
29. Amazon'India, France
30. Amicale des forestières du Burkina Faso, Burkina Faso
31. Amigos de la Tierra (Friends of the Earth Spain), Spain
32. Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE), Egypt
33. Arab Urban Development Institute, Saudi Arabia
34. Arusha Diocesan Development Office, United Republic of Tanzania
35. Asociación de Derecho Ambiental de la Región Inka, Peru
36. Asociación Ecologista de Defensa de la Naturaleza (AEDENAT), Spain
37. Asociación Los Algarrobos, Argentina
38. Asociación Mexicana de Uniones de Crédito del Sector Social A.C., Mexico
39. Asociación Vida Sana, Spain
40. Asociación Kunas Unidos Por Nabguana (KUNA), Panama
41. Associação dos Jornalistas em População Ambiente e Desenvolvimento, Cape Verde
42. Associação Pernambucana de Defensa de Natureza (ASPAN), Brasil
43. Association congolaise du froid, Congo
44. Association de coopération et de recherches pour le développment (ACORD), Mali
45. Association de formation et d'appui au développement (AFAD), Mali
46. Association de l'arbre, Mauritania
47. Association de réflexion d'échanges et d'action pour l'environnement et le développement (AREA-ED), Algeria

48. Association de sauvegarde pour le développement économique et social (ASDES), Togo
49. Association des amis de la nature et de l'environnement, Guinea
50. Association des amis de la Saoura, Algeria
51. Association des amis Tamchakett, Mauritania
52. Association des bacheliers pour l'emploi et le développement, Senegal
53. Association des femmes africaines pour la recherche sur le développement (AFARD - CAMEROUN), Cameroon
54. Association des jeunes pour l'éducation et le développement (AJED), Senegal
55. Association des personnes promotrices des initiatives paysannes, Benin
56. Association des volontaires d'oeuvres chrétiennes et humanitaires, Togo
57. Association des volontaires pour le développement (A.V.D.), Burkina Faso
58. Association développement de la vallee du Dra (ADEDRA), Morocco
59. Association développement durable, Mauritania
60. Association for Rural and Environment Care (AREC), Bangladesh
61. Association For Sarva Seva Farms (ASSEFA), India
62. Association for the Promotion of Appropriate, Socially and Environmentally Adapted Technologies, c/o German Working Group on Desertification, Germany
63. Association française d'amitié et de solidarité avec les peuples d'Afrique (AFASPA), France
64. Association/Groupe d'étude et de consultation d'appui au monde rural, à l'environnement et l'engi neering (GECAMRE), Burkina Faso
65. Association Guinée pour la promotion des énergies renouvelables (AGUIPER), Guinea
66. Association internationale des femmes francophones, Mauritania
67. Association internationale forêts méditerranéennes
68. Association internationale six "S", Burkina Faso
69. Association jeunesse populaire, Morocco
70. Association malienne des amis du Sahel, Mali
71. Association malienne pour la conservation de la faune et de son environnement (AMCFE), Mali
72. Association malienne pour la promotion du Sahel, Mali
73. Association malienne pour la protection de l'environnement "Stop-Sahel", Mali
74. Association malienne pour la protection et le développement de l'environnement au Sahel (AMPRODE/SAHEL), Mali
75. Association malienne pour le développement (AMADE), Mali
76. Association Mauritanienne pour le bien être et le secours de l'enfant et de la mère, Mauritania
77. Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion des familles, la sante et l'environnement (AMPFSE), Mauritania
78. Association nationale d'action rurale (ANAR), Burkina Faso
79. Association nationale "IBN-AL-AWAM", Algeria
80. Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (TANGO), Gambia
81. Association of Women in Development Experts (AWIDE), Ghana
82. Association Orukutuku, Benin
83. Association peuples culture développement, Togo
84. Association pour la défense et la protection du patrimoine local (ADEPPAL), Congo
85. Association pour la distribution d'energie solaire pour le développement (ADESD), Guinea
86. Association pour l'innovation et la recherche technologique approprié en environnement (AIRTAE), Burkina Faso
87. Association pour la promotion des Batwa (ASBL), Rwanda
88. Association pour la protection de la nature (A.P.N. Sahel), Burkina Faso
89. Association pour la protection de la nature et de l'environnement de Kairouan (APNEK), Tunisia
90. Association pour la protection de l'environnement, Chad
91. Association pour la protection de l'environnement en Mauritanie, Mauritania

92. Association pour la protection de l'environnement et de bien-être social (APEBES), Togo
93. Association pour la santé de la mère, du nouveau-né et de l'enfant, Togo
94. Association pour la sauvegarde de l'environnement et le développement (ASED), Benin
95. Association pour la sauvegarde du patrimoine martiniquais, Martinique
96. Association pour le développement d'Abeir, Mauritania
97. Association pour le développement des techniques agro-écologiques (ADTAE), Burkina Faso
98. Association pour le développement economique et culturel de Dafort, Mauritania
99. Association pour le développement économique social environnemental du nord (ADESEN), Senegal
100. Association pour le développement et la formation des jeunes et des femmes sur l'environnement, Rwanda
101. Association pour le développement du village de Bougoutoub Banny, Senegal
102. Association Sahel Nature, Burkina Faso
103. Association sénégalaise d'appui au développement
104. Association tchadienne des volontaires pour la protection de l'environnement, Chad
105. Association togolaise pour la promotion humaine (ATPH), Togo
106. Association Tunisie Mediterranee pour le développement durable, Tunisia
107. Association tunisienne pour la protection de la nature et de l'environnement (ATPNE), Tunisia
108. Australian Conservation Foundation, Australia
109. Australian Council For Overseas Aid, Australia
110. Avorora, Tadjikistan
111. Bawadina Rural Women Development Society, Sudan
112. Benevolent Community Education and Rural Development Society (BERDSCO), Cameroon
113. Benin "21", Benin
114. Bhoruka Charitable Trust, India
115. Bienfaisance sans Frontières, Mauritania
116. Bina Swadaya - Community Self-Reliance Development Agency, Indonesia
117. Birdlife International, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
118. BOPIX Diffusion, France
119. Bohumukhi Milon Shangha, Bangladesh
120. Bombay Natural History Society, India
121. Both Ends, Netherlands
122. Botswana Technology Centre, Botswana
123. Brain-Work of Budlet Community, Bangladesh
124. Brot fur die Welt, Germany
125. Busoga Youth Environment Protection Association, Uganda
126. CAATINGA - Centro de Assessoria e Apoio aos Trabalhadores e Instituiçoes nao Governamentais Aternativas, Brazil
127. CARE - Denmark, Denmark
128. CARE - International, Ethiopia
129. Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development, Trinidad and Tobago
130. Carrefour Sahel, Mali
131. CATIE: Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center, Costa Rica
132. ÇEKÜL - Foundation for the Protection and Promotion of the Environmental and Cultural Heritage, Turkey
133. Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), United States of America
134. Central Única dos Trabalhadores (CUT), Brazil
135. Centre africain d'assistance et de protection de l'environnement au Sahel, Senegal
136. Centre d'actions et de réalisations internationales, France
137. Centre d'appui au développement intégré et durable du monde rural (CADIM-ONG), Benin

138. Centre d'études et de recherches des initiatives pour le développement agricole et artisanal, Benin
139. Centre de recherche et d'information pour le développement (CRID), France
140. Centre de production de pépinières et de formation de Kloto, Togo
141. Centre de suivi écologique, Senegal
142. Centre for Action-Oriented Research on African Development (CARAD), Cameroon
143. Centre for Alternative Development Strategies (CADS), Sierra Leone
144. Centre for Our Common Future, Switzerland
145. Centre for Overseas Research and Development (CORD), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
146. Centre for Science and Environment, India
147. Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Application (CENESTA), Iran (Islamic Republic of)
148. Centre international de droit comparé de l'environnement, France
149. Centre pour l'environnement et le développement rural (CEDER), Cameroon
150. Centro Andino de Investigacion y Desarrollo, Peru
151. Centro de Experimentación y Capacitación en Tecnologia Apropiada (TEKHNE), Chile
152. Centro Salvadoreño de Tecnologia Apropiada (CESTA), El Salvador
153. Cercle international pour la promotion de la création, Cameroon
154. Chisinau Branch of the Environmental Movement of Moldova, Republic of Moldova
155. Chlorophylle, France
156. Christian Aid, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
157. Christian Care, Zimbabwe
158. Christian Service Committee of the Churches in Malawi, Malawi
159. CIDECO - Centro de Investigación y Difusión Ecológica y Cultural de Otavalo, Ecuador
160. CIEPAD, France
161. Climate Network Africa, Kenya
162. Club des amis de la nature et la protection de l'environnement, Mauritania
163. Club des prospecteurs de l'or vert (CLUPOV), Chad
164. Club Unesco du centre d'action femme et enfant (CUCAFE/ONG), Democratic Republic of the Congo
165. Collectif d'actions pour le développement intégré dans les communautés (CADIC), Burundi
166. Collectif des organisations non-gouvernementales actives en Côte d'Ivoire (CONGACI), Côte d'Ivoire
167. Comité d'appui pour la promotion dans le Sahel (CAPROS), Mali
168. Comité de coordination des actions des ONG au Mali (CCA-ONG), Mali
169. Comité de santé et de développement de Birava, Democratic Republic of the Congo
170. Comité français contre la faim, France
171. Comité Nacional Pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora (CODEFF), Chile
172. Communities Forestry and Social Development Organisation, Ghana
173. Community Development Research Foundation, United Republic of Tanzania
174. Confederaçao Nacional dos Trabalhadores na Agricultura, Brazil
175. Confédération des ONG d'environnement et de développement de l'Afrique Centrale (CONGAC), Cameroon
176. Conseil des organisations non-Gouvernmentales d'appui au développement (CONGAD), Senegal
177. Consejo Andino de Manejo Ecológico, Peru
178. Conservatoire et jardin botanique des Mascarins, Ile de la Réunion
179. Consolidated Environmental Conservation Organisation (CECO), Kenya
180. Consultation-recherche-éducation en environnement pour un développement durable en Afrique (CREDA), Togo
181. Contribution au développement rural (ONG-CDR), Niger
182. Coopération - Solidarité - Développement, Niger
183. Cooperative Agricole al Baraka d'Aleg, Mauritania
184. Coopérative d'agriculture, d'élevage et de reboisement de Bareina, Mauritania

185. Cooperazione per lo sviluppo dei Paesi Emergenti, Italy
186. Coordination in Development, Inc. (CODEL), United States of America
187. Coordinamento delle Organizzazioni non governative per la Cooperazione Internazionale allo Sviluppo (COCIS), Italy
188. Coordination Nationale de la Plateforme Paysanne du Niger (CNPFP), Niger
189. Cote D'Ivoire Ecologie, Cote D'Ivoire
190. Council for Human Ecology-Kenya (CHEK), Kenya
191. Council for Tribal and Rural Development (CTRD), India
192. Council of Swaziland Churches, Swaziland
193. Country Women's Association of Nigeria, Nigeria
194. DARNA, Chad
195. DESCO/Centro de Estudios y Promocion del Desarrollo, Peru
196. Desert Research Foundation of Namibia, Namibia
197. Detmac Associates, Cameroon
198. Developing Countries Farm Radio Network, Canada
199. Development Alternatives Network, Kenya
200. Development Centre International, Bangladesh
201. Development Group, India
202. Diaconia, Brazil
203. Disaster Mitigation Institute, India
204. EarthAction Network - Regional Office, Latin America and the Caribbean, Chile
205. EarthAction Network, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
206. Earthcare Africa Monitoring Institute, Kenya
207. Earth Search, Nigeria
208. Ecociencia, Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos, Ecuador
209. Eco-Club Tapan, Armenia
210. Eco Link, South Africa
211. Ecole et vie, Togo
212. Ecological Club "Catena", Turkmenistan
213. Ecological Movement of Kyrgyzstan "Aleyne", Kyrgyzstan
214. ECOMONDIA, Romania
215. EcoNews Africa, Kenya
216. EcoPeace, Israel
217. Egerton University, Kenya
218. Egyptian Biodynamic Association, Egypt
219. Egyptian Society for Cultural Development, Egypt
220. Emmaus International Association, France
221. Enda Inter-Arabe, Tunisia
222. Enda-Maghreb, Morocco
223. Energies-eau-environnement pour le développement, Cameroon
224. Entrepreneariat développement environnement nutrition (EDEN), Togo
225. Environment and Development Resource (EDRC), Belgium
226. Environment and Development Society of Ethiopia (EDE), Ethiopia
227. Environment Development Society, India
228. Environment Liaison Centre International, Kenya
229. Environment Protection and Development Centre, India
230. Environment Protection Association of Ghana, Ghana
231. Environment Society of Chandigarh, India
232. Environmental Defense Fund, United States of America
233. Environmental Monitoring Group, South Africa
234. Environmental Policy and Society (EPOS), Sweden
235. Environmental Research Centre ENVIRC, Republic of Kazakhstan
236. Environmentalist Society, Sudan
237. Environnement et developpement du tiers-monde (ENDA-TM), Senegal
238. Enviro-protect, Cameroon
239. Espoir, Mauritania
240. Esquel Group Foundation, United States of America
241. European Environmental Bureau, Belgium
242. European Society for Soil Conservation, Spain
243. Favdo - Forum for African Voluntary Development Organizations, Senegal

244. Federaçao dos Trabalhadores na Agricultura do Estado de Pernambuco (FETAPE), Brazil
245. Fédération des associations des parents d'élèves du Cameroun, Cameroon
246. Fédération des associations du Fouta pour le développement (FAFD), Senegal
247. Fédération des associations féminines du Sénégal (FAFS), Senegal
248. Fédération des ONG au Togo (FONGTO), Togo
249. Federation des Organisations Non Gouvernementales du Senegal (FONGS), Senegal
250. Fédération Nationale des GIE éleveurs du Sénégal, Senegal
251. Felege Guihon International, Switzerland
252. Femme - Jeunesse - Environnement - Santé (FEMJES), Niger
253. Fondation centrafricaine pour la sauvegarde des ressources (FOCSARENA), Central African Republic
254. Fondation des amis de la nature (NATURAMA), Burkina Faso
255. Fondation du Léman, Switzerland
256. Fondation paix et développement, Senegal
257. Fondation René Dumont, Senegal
258. Fondo Pro Naturaleza - Pronatura, Dominican Republic
259. Forest Resources Environment Development and Conservation Association (FREDA), Myanmar
260. Forum maghrébin pour l'environnement et le développement, Morocco
261. Forum international des exploitants forestières, Congo
262. ForUM - The Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development, Norway
263. Foyer des Jeunes et de la Culture de Boulandor, Senegal
264. Frank-Link Associates (F.A), Cameroon
265. Friends of the Earth Ghana, Ghana
266. Friends of the Earth Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone
267. Friends of the Earth Australia (FoEA), Australia
268. Friends of the Environment, Uganda
269. Friends of the Environment and Development Association, Egypt
270. Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)/Quakers, United States of America
271. Fundaçao Grupo Esquel Brasil, Brazil
272. Fundaçao Rio Parnaiba, Brazil
273. Fundación 2001/ Global Nature, Spain
274. Fundación Alma, Colombia
275. Fundación Ambiente Y Recursos Naturales (FARN), Argentina
276. Fundación del Sur, Argentina
277. Fundación Ecológica Arco Iris, Ecuador
278. Fundación Ecológica "Maran", Ecuador
279. Fundación Habitat y Desarrollo, Argentina
280. Fundación Bernatdiana, Argentina
281. Fundación para el Desarrollo en Justicia y Paz, Argentina
282. Fundación Patagonia Natural, Argentina
283. Fundación Pro-Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia
284. Fundación San Gregorio de Protolviejo, Ecuador
285. Gandhivan, India
286. Ganja Unnayan Committee, India
287. GECOU Research Group, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
288. General Union of Peasants, Syrian Arab Republic
289. German Advisory Council on Global Change, Germany
290. Gia-Nablo Agro-Forestry Development Organisation, Ghana
291. GIC-SERPREA: Groupe d'initiative commune pour le développement rural, la protection de l'environnement de l'élevage de l'artisanat, Cameroon
292. Gilma Youngsters, Ghana
293. Global Environmental Forum, Japan
294. Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE) - International, Belgium
295. Globe Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE) - South Africa, South Africa
296. Good Social Work Centre, India
297. Green Cross International (GCI), Switzerland

298. Green Earth Organization (GEO), Ghana
299. Green Environment Movement, Nigeria
300. Green Forum for Development, Ghana
301. Greenlife Society - North American Chapter, United States of America
302. Groupe de recherche et action pour la promotion économique et sociale (GRAPES), Mali
303. Groupe de recherches et d'applications techniques (GRAT), Mali
304. Groupement d'appui aux initiatives économiques des femmes, Mali
305. Groupement des aides privées, Niger
306. Groupement des handicapés producteurs de Guiaadougou (GHPG) Wend-Songré, Burkina Faso
307. Groupement des retraités éducateurs sans frontières, France
308. Grupo de Estudios Ambientales A.C., Mexico
309. Guamina, Mali
310. Guinée écologie, Guinea
311. Haribon Foundation, Philippines
312. Henry Doubleday Research Association, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
313. Heritage International Organization, Nigeria
314. Hope for Women, Ethiopia
315. Human Settlements of Zambia (HUSA), Zambia
316. ICEF - International Court of the Environment, Italy
317. IMO Youth Network Programme, Nigeria
318. INAFORM, Morocco
319. India Community Development Service Society, India
320. Indian Committee of Youth Organisations (ICYO), India
321. Inner Mongolia Arid Land Management Foundation, United States of America
322. Institut africain pour le développement économique et social (INADES-Formation), Burkina Faso
323. Institut de recherche et documentation sur les problèmes du tiers monde, Italy
324. Institut de recherche sur l'environnement (IREC), France
325. Institut Mariam Diallo, Mauritania
326. Institute for Development Anthropology, United States of America
327. Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development, Italy
328. Institute of Development Studies, India
329. Institute For Rural Resources Development Studies, Indonesia
330. Institute of Sustainable Development Environmental and Scientific Research, India
331. Institute of Training Concern, Bangladesh
332. Instituto de Investigación de Zonas Desérticas de la Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, Mexico
333. Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Comunal "La Libertad", Trujillo, Peru
334. Instituto de Pre-Historia, Antropologia e Ecologia (IPHAE), Brazil
335. Instituto Desert, Brazil
336. Instituto per le Relazioni tra l'Italia e i Paesi dell'Africa, America Latina e Medio Oriente (IPALMO), Italy
337. Interdisciplinary Center for Technological Analysis and Forecasting, Israel
338. Intermediate Technology, Kenya
339. International Academy of the Environment, Switzerland
340. International Campaign for Freedom and Peace, Benin
341. International Catholic Organization for Cinema and Audiovisual (OCIC), Italy
342. International Central Asian Biodiversity Institute (SIUSTAN), Uzbekistan
343. International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, Kenya
344. International Chamber of Commerce, United States of America
345. International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, India
346. International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), Belgium
347. International Council of Women, France
348. International Environmental Association of Women of the Orient, Kazakhstan

349. International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP), France
350. International Federation of University Women (IFUW), Switzerland
351. International Fund to Combat Desertification, Kazakhstan
352. International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, Germany
353. International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
354. International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, Philippines
355. International Juridical Organisation for Environment and Development, Italy
356. International Organization for World Peace, Disarmament, Development and World Human Rights, United States of America
357. International Peace Research Association, Switzerland
358. International Soil Reference and Information Centre, Netherlands
359. International Synergy Institute, United States of America
360. International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS), Austria
361. International Youth and Student Movement for the UN (ISMUN), Switzerland
362. Islamic Relief Association (ISRA), Gambia
363. Jagruthi Society, India
364. Jana Seva Parisad, India
365. Jeunesse pionnière rurale, Togo
366. Jeunesse sans frontières (JEUSAF), Cameroon
367. Jordanian Society for Women, Environment Development, Jordan
368. Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET), United Republic of Tanzania
369. Kalahari Conservation Society, Botswana
370. Karnataka Welfare Society (KWALITY), India
371. Kelansar Vikas Samiti (KVS), India
372. KENGO Kenya Energy and Environment Organizations, Kenya
373. Kenya Consumers' Organization, Kenya
374. Kenya Volunteer Development Services, Kenya
375. Kerala Sastra Sahithya Parishad, India
376. Kindernothilfe (KNH), Germany
377. KWIA Support Group For Indigenous Peoples, Belgium
378. La Colombe, Togo
379. Laboratoire de géographie physique zonale, France
380. LAPO - Lift Above Poverty Organisation, Nigeria
381. Law and Environment Eurasia Partnership (LEEP), Uzbekistan
382. League for Pastoral Peoples, Germany
383. Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center Inc., Philippines
384. Les amis de la terre, Benin
385. Les amis de la terre (AMITERD), Djibouti
386. Les amis de la terre, Togo
387. Lesotho Council of NGOs, Lesotho
388. Liga de Defensa del Medio Ambiente (LIDEMA), Bolivia
389. Ligue de lutte contre le sous-développement, Mali
390. Ligue tchadienne pour la sauvegarde de l'environnement (LSTE), Chad
391. Lutheran World Federation, Switzerland
392. Lutheran World Federation, Uganda
393. Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organisation, Kenya
394. Mauritius Council of Social Service, Mauritius
395. MED-FORUM, Spain
396. Meteo-Ambiente - Associazione Culturale, Italy
397. MIO-ECSDE: Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development, Greece
398. Mission Sahel, Mali
399. MORABI - Associaçao de Apoio à Auto-Promoçao da Mulher no Desenvolvimento, Cape Verde
400. Mouvement d'action pour le renouveau social, Togo
401. Mouvement écologique algérien (MEA), Algeria
402. Movimiento Agroecológico Chileno, Chile
403. Movimiento Ambientalista Nicaraguense, Nicaragua

04. Movimondo Molisv, Italy
05. Nafa-Gonal, Guinea-Bissau
06. NAHL Environmental Protection Society, Yemen
07. Namibia Development Trust, Namibia
08. National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's of Swaziland, Swaziland
09. Natural Heritage Institute, United States of America
10. Natural Resources Protection Group (NARP), Sudan
11. Naurzum - Non-governmental Ecological Organisation, Kazakhstan
12. Neighbour in Need Foundation (NENFOUND), Ghana
13. Ngara District Development Organisation, United Republic of Tanzania
14. Nigerian Concerned Group for Environment, Population and Development, Nigeria
15. Nigerian Environmental Study/Action Team (NEST), Nigeria
16. NOMAD-AID, Djibouti
17. Novib, Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation, Netherlands
18. OCBE/VERT Observatoire des cultures bantoues de la biodiversité et de l'éducation a l'environnement, Congo
19. Office africain pour le développement et la coopération, Senegal
20. One World Now, United States of America
21. ONG EL BIRR, Mauritania
22. Organisation centrafricaine pour la défense de la nature, Central African Republic
23. Organisation d'aide au développement, Guinea
24. Organisation des femmes du Cap-Vert (OMCV), Cape Verde
25. Organisation mauritanienne de secours (OMS), Mauritania
26. Organisation mauritanienne pour le développement des zones arides et semi arides (ODZASAM), Mauritania
27. Organisation féminine pour le développement du Haut-Nkam (OR.FE.DE.HN), Cameroon
28. Organisation mauritanienne pour la protection de l'environnement et la lutte contre la désertification, Mauritania
29. Organisation nigérienne pour le développement à la base du potentiel humain (ONDPH), Niger
30. Organisation pour la sauvegarde de l'environnement, l'amélioration de l'habitat et la lutte contre les catastrophes naturelles, Democratic Republic of the Congo
31. Orissa State Volunteers and Social Workers Association, India
32. OXFAM, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
33. Pakistan Rural Workers Social Welfare Organisation (PRWSWO), Pakistan
34. PanAmerican-PanAfrican Association, United States of America
35. Partenaires de la femme malienne (PA.FE.M), Mali
36. Partnership Management and Support Program, Cameroon
37. Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa (PENHA), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
38. Peace Trust, India
39. Pentecost Social Services, Ghana
40. People In Action, Gambia
41. Perimart International, Kenya
42. Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Philippines
43. Platform for Sustainable Development, Netherlands
44. Pollution Control Association of Liberia (POCAL), Liberia
45. Poor and Progress Assistance (PAPA), Bangladesh
46. Port Loko United Nations Students Association/Port Loko, Sierra Leone
47. Programme régional de développement et d'aménagement des savanes (PREDAS), Togo
48. Project Earth Action, Congo
49. Projektstelle Umwelt und Entwicklung, Germany
50. Projet de lutte contre la malnutrition, Congo
51. PROMETA - Protección del Medio Ambiente Tarija, Bolivia
52. Promo-Femmes/Développement Sport, Burkina Faso

453. Protection and Preservation of Natural Environment in Albania (PPNEA), Albania
454. Proterra, Peru
455. Public Campaign on Environment and Development, Sri Lanka
456. PVO/NGO/NRMS (World Learning Inc.), United States of America
457. Rajasthan Pradesh Bharat Sevak Samaj, India
458. Recherche, appui et formation aux initiatives d'auto-développement, Togo
459. Red Mexicana de Esfuerzos contra la desertificacion y la degradacion de los recursos naturales (RIOD MEX) A.C., Mexico
460. REDES Friends of the Earth, Uruguay
461. Regroupement des organismes Canada-Haitiens pour le développement, Canada
462. Research Group on Combating Desertification of Forestry Society of Chifeng, China
463. Réseau africain genre/gestion des ressources naturelles, Burkina Faso
464. Réseau africain pour le développement (RADEV), Ethiopia
465. Réseau africain pour le développement intégré (RADI), Senegal
466. Réseau d'appui aux initiatives communautaires, Mali
467. Réseau de développement d'agriculture durable (REDAD), Benin
468. Réseau d'éducation pour le développement en coopération (REDEC), Guinea
469. Réseau d'experts volontaires (REV), Cameroon
470. Réseau international pour le développement et l'environnement à la base (RIDEB - AFRIQUE), Benin
471. Réseau pour l'environnement et le développement durable en Afrique (REDDA/NESDA), Côte d'Ivoire
472. Réseau Québécois des Groupes Écologistes, Canada
473. Restoration of Environment Against Distress (READ), Kenya
474. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
475. Royal Geographical Society, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
476. Rural Centre for Human Interests, India
477. Rural Development Foundation of Pakistan, Pakistan
478. Rural Development Organisation, Cameroon
479. Rural Women Environmental Protection Association, Cameroon
480. RUZAR - Ecological Society, Azerbaijan
481. Sahabat Alam Malaysia - Friends of the Earth (Malaysia), Malaysia
482. Sahel DEFIS: développement, environment, formation, insertion sociale, France
483. Sahel solidarité, Burkina Faso
484. Sahel vert, Burkina Faso
485. SAHEL 3000, Senegal
486. SAILD, Cameroon
487. SAPHTA,- salubrité, propreté, hygiène et techniques assainissement Niger
488. Save the Children, Burkina Faso
489. Saviya Development Foundation, Sri Lanka
490. School Dropout Services, Kenya
491. Secrétariat de concertation des ONG maliennes (SECO-ONG/MALI), Mali
492. Secrétariat permanent des organisations non-gouvernementales (SPONG), Burkina Faso
493. Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), India
494. Service civil international (SCI), Bangladesh
495. Service Extension and Action Research for Communities in the Hills (SEARCH-NEPAL), Nepal
496. Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan
497. Sierra Leone Adult Education Association (SLADEA), Sierra Leone
498. Sindh Rural Women's Up-lift Group, Pakistan
499. SIYOTANKA, France
500. Social Fund "Socium" of Support and Realization of Youth's Initiatives Kyrgyzstan
501. Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, Peru
502. Société algérienne pour le droit de l'environnement, Algeria
503. Societé pour le développement de la cuvette-ouest (SODECO), Congo

504. Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE), Pakistan
505. Society for Rural Development (Gram Bharati Samiti), India
506. Socio-Ecological Union, Russian Federation
507. Solagral, France
508. Solar Cookers International, United States of America
509. Solidarité Canada Sahel, Canada
510. Solidarité humaine, Togo
511. Solidarité pour le Sahel (SOLISA), Mali
512. SOS Nature, Togo
513. SOS Oasis, Mauritania
514. SOS-Sahel International, France
515. SOS Sahel International, Senegal
516. SOS Terre-air-mer, Senegal
517. South Asia Partnership, Nepal
518. South-South Solidarity, India
519. Southern Networks for Environment and Development, Kenya
520. Southern Youth and Students Organization, India
521. SouthPanAfrican International, Togo
522. Sri Lanka Environment Congress, Sri Lanka
523. Sri Lanka Environment Journalists Forum, Sri Lanka
524. St. Xavier's Social Service Society, India
525. Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden
526. Sudanese Environment and Development Organization, Sudan
527. Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (SECS), Sudan
528. Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC), Sudan
529. Sudanese Social Forestry Society, Sudan
530. Suntaa-Nuntaa Rural Development Programme, Ghana
531. Sunyani Diocesan Development Office, Ghana
532. Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan
533. Sustainable Negev - Negev Bar Kayma, Israel
534. Swabi Women Welfare Society (SWWS), Pakistan
535. Swaziland Farmer Development Foundation, Swaziland
536. Syndicat d'initiatives des Nyangezi (SINYA), Rwanda
537. Synergos Institute Inc., United States of America
538. Syrian Agricultural Engineers Syndicate, Syrian Arab Republic
539. Tamil Nadu Environment Council/Ceda Trust (TNEC), India
540. Tanzania Environmental Society (TESO), United Republic of Tanzania
541. Tanzania Tree Planting Foundation, United Republic of Tanzania
542. Tarime Rural Development Trust Fund (TARDTF), United Republic of Tanzania
543. Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), India
544. Terre des hommes, France
545. Terre vivante - Living Earth, Mauritania
546. The Conservation Society of Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone
547. The Together Foundation, United States of America
548. Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Italy
549. Third World Network, Malaysia
550. Thusano Lefatsheng, Botswana
551. Tree and Energy Conservation Programmes (TRENCOP), Uganda
552. Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute, India
553. Trust for Transitional Action to Progress (TTAP), India
554. Trust-Help, India
555. Turkish Association for the Conservation of Nature, Turkey
556. Turkish Foundation for Combating Erosion, Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats (TEMA), Turkey
557. Twenty-First Century Rural Development Society, India
558. Uganda Association for Social and Economic Progress, Uganda
559. Uganda Women's Tree Planting Movement, Uganda
560. Un pas de plus pour l'enfant (UPPE), Togo
561. United Club, Bangladesh
562. United Nations Association of Canada, Canada
563. United Nations of Youth, Senegal
564. United Socio-Economic Development and Research Programme (UNDARP), India

565. Universidad Internacional de Andalucia, Sede Antonio Machado - Centro Andaluz de Estudios para el Desarrollo Rural, Spain
566. Vent-Soleil-Environnement et Développement (VESEDI), France
567. Vernot Environment, Colombia
568. Vihar Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, India
569. Volontaires dans la lutte contre la désertification et la sécheresse - (VOLUDES), Guinea-Bissau
570. Vredeseilanden, Togo
571. Vuum Tree Planting and Nursery Society, Ghana
572. West African Association for Marine Environment, Senegal
573. West and Central African Soil Science Association, Burkina Faso
574. Wetlands International-China Programme, China
575. Wilderness Society, Australia
576. Wildlife Clubs of Kenya, Kenya
577. Wildlife Clubs of Uganda, Uganda
578. Women for Sustainable Development, Tunisia
579. Women in Service, Development, Organisation and Management, Gambia
580. Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), United States of America
581. World Conservation Union (IUCN), Burkina Faso
582. World Council of Churches, Switzerland
583. World Federation of Unesco Clubs, Centres and Associations, Maison de l'Unesco, France
584. World Federation of United Nations Associations, Switzerland
585. World Organization of the Scout Movement - Africa Regional Office, Switzerland
586. World Resources Institute, United States of America
587. World Vision International, Senegal
588. World Vision International, Switzerland
589. World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA), Switzerland
590. Worldview International Foundation, Kenya
591. Worldwide Network, United States of America
592. World Wide Fund For Nature, Switzerland
593. Yonge Nawe Environmental Action Group, Swaziland
594. Young Women's Christian Association, Kenya
595. Youth and Environment Society, Bahrain
596. Youth EcoCenter, Tajikistan
597. Youth for Action, India
598. Youth for Development and Cooperation (YDC), Netherlands
599. Zambia Alliance of Women, Zambia
600. Zambia Association for Research and Development (ZARD), Zambia
601. ZERO, Zimbabwe

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UNITED
NATIONS

Convention to Combat
Desertification

ACCREDITATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

Note by the secretariat

Addendum

Annex

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS PROPOSED FOR ACCREDITATION TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

1. Alliance Niger - Nature
BP 2473
Niamey
Niger
Tel: not given
Fax: not given
Established: 1999
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: organizes information and awareness campaigns on the effects of desertification; carries out reforestation projects through the construction of tree plantations and awareness-raising seminars; supports the development of natural areas with management and supervision programmes; and establishes partnerships with other national and local NGOs.

2. Asociación para el Desarrollo Progresivo de los Pueblos
Jiron Coronel Barriga No 472
Puno
Peru
Tel: (51-54) 354 059
Fax: not given
Email: edeprop@terra.com.pe
Established: 1991
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: contributes to the discussion of the National Report for the implementation of the Convention; undertakes activities for the development of marginal areas; encourages governments to promote small enterprises and private initiatives; and strengthens capacity-building to generate employment and self-employment.

3. Association mauritanienne pour le développement et la protection de l'environnement
BP 897 2ème etage siege UTM
Nouakchott
Mauritania
Tel: (222) 294 072 / 290 199 / 256 072
Fax: (222) 255 686
Email: amdpe@iiardd.mr
Established: 1998
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: undertakes activities to raise awareness among community-based organizations and cooperatives on the effects of desertification and the need to protect the environment; promotes synergies and cooperation with other NGOs to combat

desertification and collaborates on its elimination at the GEF through the organization of regional seminars in the SADC.

4. Association of Zimbabwean Traditional Environmental Conservationists
PO Box
Masvingo
Zimbabwe
Tel: (263) 096 60268
Fax: (263) 096 61841
Email: atrez@mweb.co.zw
Established: 1996
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: encourages the utilization of traditional knowledge; undertakes activities to conserve woodlands and forests and to rehabilitate wetlands and natural springs; organizes workshops on natural resource management, sustainable agriculture and indigenous agricultural knowledge; and raises awareness to strengthen the ability of local groups in enhancing biodiversity.

5. Association pour la sauvegarde des espèces animales et végétales en voie de disparition en Mauritanie
BP 2167
Nouakchott
Mauritania
Tel: (222) 246 410
Fax: (222) 242 470
Established: 1990
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: promotes the development of vegetal and animal resources through its conservation and sustainable use; participates in the creation of parks, natural reserves and protected areas; raises awareness among the population about environmental problems; and encourages women and young people to participate in programmes to protect the environment.

6. Association bantou pour la protection de l'environnement et le développement alternatif
16 Avenue Riviere A 1 Bis, Bruyere
Port au Prince
Haiti
Tels: (509) 240 7041 / 42 / 2040
Fax: (509) 240 7043
Email: cobpeh@haitiworld.com
Established: 1991
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: organizes information campaigns; undertakes activities dealing with raising awareness among community-based organizations of the effects of desertification; collaborates with friends

of the Earth International on the project against desertification; and carries out action to conserve endemic vegetal species.

7. Drylands Coordination Group
c/o Noragric, PO Box 5001
1432 As
Norway
Tel: (47) 6494 9950
Fax: (47) 6494 0760
Email: grete.benjaminsen@noragric.nlh.no
Established: 1997
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: acts as a network for Norwegian based NGOs that are working in drylands in Africa; carries out studies in relation to development projects dealing with food security, and natural resource management in the drylands; holds seminars and workshops on sustainable development in these areas; and raises awareness among the Norwegian community on the UNCCD and on how DCG activities can be used in the follow-up to the Convention.

8. Emission Trading Association of Australia Ltd
GPO Box 3335 NSW 2001
Sydney
Australia
Tel: (612) 9712 0808
Fax: (612) 9712 0313
Email: vincin@emissiontraders.com.au
Established: 1997
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: promotes land, water and social reforestation with the aim of reducing emissions by increasing vegetation cover; educates and trains traditional landholders on using new types of vegetation; and promotes new livestock grazing in countries affected by desertification to reduce soil salinity.

9. Evangelische Akademie Tutzing
Schloss-Str. 2+4 82327
Tutzing
Germany
Tel: (49 8158) 251 116
Fax: (49 8158) 996 426
Email: held@ev-akademie-tutzing.de
Established: 1949
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: organizes conferences on soils and sustainable use of soils; and promotes the sustainable use of soils.

13. Health and Environment Programme
PO Box 670
Yaounde
Cameroun
Tel: (237) 229 617
Fax: (237) 229 617
Email: nlouga@iconet.com
Established: 1997
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: raises awareness among women and young people on the problem of desertification; organizes seminars, round tables and conferences for participation by other NGOS; and undertakes activities to educate different sectors of the population and to train trainers.

14. International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives
City Hall, West Tower, 16th floor 100 Queen St. West.
Toronto M5H 2N2
Canada
Tel: (1416) 392 1462
Fax: (1416) 392 1478
Email: secretary.general@iclei.org
Established: 1990
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: Builds and serves a worldwide movement of local authorities; undertakes programmes to improve the environment and sustainable development through local actions; brings together local authorities and groups to work together; and provides local authorities with policy guidance, training and technical assistance and consultancy services.

15. Menyiss Multipurpose Group
PO Box 234
Ngaoundal-Meiram
Cameroon
Tel: (237) 223428
Fax: (237) 229617
Email: chl.saddiss@iaa.net
Established: 2000
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: educates peasant farmers on modern farming methods in order to conserve the fertility of the soil and prevent the effects of desertification; undertakes projects to obtain adequate techniques for tree plantations and tree nurseries for horticulture; undertakes campaigns to protect wildlife in particular areas of the country; and raises awareness on the UNCCD among the population through campaigns, courses and meetings.

14. Monitor International
[illegible] State Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
USA
Tel: (410) 268 5311
Fax: (410) 268 9782
Email: info@monitorinternational.com
Established: 1979
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: compiles and analyses case studies of community-based integrated land-water management in sub-Saharan Africa; acts as the central focal point for the GEF-NGO Network; and promotes freshwater ecosystems throughout the world via the programme Landnet.

15. Near East Foundation
240 Madison Avenue, Suite 1100
New York 10017
USA
Tel: (1-212) 687 7564
Fax: (1-212) 687 7186
Email: nef-ny@neareast.org
Established: 1915
Membership: International

Activities relevant to the Convention: carries out programmes in arid and semi-arid areas to introduce new agricultural techniques and assists in activities related to environmental management; develops programmes in the Near East dealing with urban development, the creation of training centres and the strengthening of community-based institutions; provides practical assistance to impoverished communities in rural areas and helps communities in building participatory institutions to produce food and water and provide services and education.

16. Peace Volunteers
Muscogee-Russ District PO Box [illegible]
Kyoto
Japan
Tel: (254) 857 1161
Fax: (254)857 1069
Established: 1994
Membership: National
Activities relevant to the Convention: promotes alternative livelihoods; undertakes programmes aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable food security; storage and marketing; raises awareness of the use of sustainable agricultural practices; encourages the use of solar cookers; undertakes activities to support orphans and widows in partnership with local communities.

19. Portable Water and Environmental Awareness
PMB 213
Garua, N. W. Province
Cameroon
Tel: (237) 315 399
Fax: (237) 316 913
Email: guidado@yahoo.com
Established: 1999 Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: organizes seminars to raise awareness on overfarming, crop rotation, irrigation systems and water availability; carries out reforestation campaigns; and supports and manages tree nurseries in different regions of the country.

20. Society for Rural Advancement and Democratic Humanitarian Action
Parsasahu Marasi, Kaliuria, Via Mahipragada, Dist. Dhenkanal - 759018
Orissa
India
Tel: (91-674) 584340
Fax: not given
Email: p_hrudanandaa@hotmail.com
Established: 1986
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: undertakes afforestation, watershed and forest protection programmes; promotes and strengthens village-based women's groups and Self-Help Groups; carries-out programmes for particular sectors of the society such as old people and women; aids the younger generation through vocational training programmes; and manages natural resources in order to promote and protect the environment.

21. Stop - Desert
BP 6694
Nouakchott
Mauritanie
Tel: (222) 29 [illegible]
Fax: (222) [illegible]
Established: 1994
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: organizes information and awareness campaigns on desertification and management of natural resources; participates in seminars and workshops related to the environment and sustainable development; carries out programmes on reforestation, creation of tree nurseries and identification of water sources; and collaborates with nomads, NGOs, local authorities and the private sector to reach the goal of their organization.

22. Terra Nuova
Via Urtana 156, 00184
Roma
Italia
Tel: (39-06) 485 534
Fax: (39-06) 474 7589
Email: tnuova@comnity.it
Established: 1990
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: collaborates with international agencies and contributes to the discussion of the National Action Programme in Mali; develops projects to protect the environment and integrate agro-pastoral activities; supports activities to strengthen the capacity building of local populations; manages programmes dealing with sustainable agriculture and commercialization of market gardening and products of animal origin; and undertakes projects to develop traditional pastoral systems.

23. World Wide Fund
Panda House, Weyside Park, Catteral Lane, Surrey GU7 1XR
Godalming
United Kingdom
Tel: (44-1483) 426 444
Fax: (44-1483) 426 409
Email: ealtgh@wwf-uk.org
Established: 1961
Membership: National

Activities relevant to the Convention: strengthens the capacity of local communities to sustainably use forest and freshwater resources; supports various projects and programmes aimed at the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources; and is involved in planning and policy processes focused on the integration of the environment into mainstream development.

UNITED NATIONS

Convention to Combat Desertification

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21 December 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fourth session
Bonn, 11-22 December 2000
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATIONS

Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties

Introduction

1. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties, "the credentials of representatives as well as the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat if possible not later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization."

2. Furthermore, rule 20 of the rules of procedure provides that "the Bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference of the Parties for decision."

3. The present report is submitted to the Conference of the Parties in the light of the foregoing.

Examination of credentials

4. On 21 December 2000, the Bureau met to examine the credentials submitted by Parties to the Convention.

5. The Bureau had before it a memorandum dated 21 December 2000 from the Executive Secretary on the status of credentials of representatives participating in the Conference. The information contained in this memorandum is reflected below.

6. As noted in the memorandum of the Executive Secretary, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as provided for in rule 19 of the rules of procedure, have been received by the secretariat for the representatives of the following 88 Parties participating in the Conference: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, European Community, Fiji, France, Gambia, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New

Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

7. As of 21 December 2000 credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as provided for in rule 19 of the rules of procedure, have been received by facsimile or photocopy for the representatives of the following 29 Parties participating in the Conference: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niger, Palau, Philippines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

8. As noted further in the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the Conference has been communicated to the secretariat by means of facsimile or photocopy in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the representatives of the following 34 Parties participating in the Conference: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bolivia, Cambodia, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Indonesia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen.

9. The President proposed that the Bureau should accept the credentials of all the representatives mentioned in the memorandum of the Executive Secretary, on the understanding that formal credentials for the representatives referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 above would be communicated to the secretariat as soon as possible. The Bureau accepted the proposal and agreed to submit the present report and the following draft decision to the Conference.

Draft decision submitted by the Bureau

Approval of the report on credentials

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the report on credentials of the Bureau of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report on credentials submitted by the Bureau of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties.

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